



# Jordan Times

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## Junblatt begins talks in Moscow

MOSCOW (R) — Lebanese opposition leader Walid Junblatt met Soviet Communist Party officials Friday for talks on the situation in the Middle East, according to informed Soviet sources. They said Mr. Junblatt, who heads the Lebanese Progressive Socialist Party (PSP), arrived in Moscow Thursday night. Arab diplomatic sources said he was unlikely to meet any top members of the Soviet leadership. He was invited by the Communist Party Central Committee. The PSP chief's visit has not been reported by the Soviet media and the diplomats said Moscow would want to avoid giving the impression it was interfering in Lebanon, where Mr. Junblatt and other Lebanese factional leaders have been negotiating an internal peace plan, so far unsuccessfully. Moscow has not commented directly on the internal Lebanese feuds but repeatedly demanded the withdrawal of Israeli troops from South Lebanon and the multi-national peacekeeping force from Beirut.

## Egyptian trade minister in Amman

AMMAN (R) — Egypt's Economy and Foreign Trade Minister Mustafa Kamel Sa'id arrived in Amman Friday on his second visit here in four weeks. Egypt's most senior diplomat in Amman, Nabil Badr, told Reuters Mr. Sa'id would attend a three-day seminar sponsored by Jordan's Central Bank on international monetary developments and Arab monetary cooperation in the 1980s. Monetary experts from other Arab countries together with specialists from the International Monetary Fund and other organizations will also attend. Mr. Badr said that during his stay in Amman, Mr. Sa'id would pay courtesy calls on former Trade and Industry Minister Walid Asfour and new Minister Jawad Al Anani.

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## Mauritius closes Libyan mission

PORT LOUIS (R) — The government of Mauritius has closed the Libyan people's bureau (embassy) and ordered all the staff to leave Friday evening, an official statement said. The statement, issued by the office of Prime Minister Anerood Jugnauth, gave no reason for the decision. In 1982, the then government of Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam accused Libya of offering money and arms to the Mauritius Militant Movement (MMM), a political party. It produced documents that the MMM said were forgeries.

## Tlas: Soviets will support Syria

WARSAW (R) — Syria's defence minister, Major-General Mustafa Tlas, was quoted Friday as saying his country could count on Soviet support and would not allow the United States a free hand in the Middle East. In an interview with the Polish government magazine Rzeczpospolita the minister also said Syria was convinced it would be able to overcome its enemies. "The future will bear witness to this," he said. The magazine said the interview was held in Damascus before the release of an American airman shot down by the Syrians over Lebanon last month.

## Bourguiba orders probe into riots

TUNISIA (R) — President Habib Bourguiba has ordered a special inquiry commission set up to establish responsibilities in the recent food riots, Tunisian Information Minister Abdelrazzak Kefi said after a council of ministers meeting Thursday. Week-long riots sparked by a doubling in the price of bread left about 100 dead throughout Tunisia, according to sources close to the Tunisian human rights defence league.

## Denktash off to OIC summit

NICOSIA (R) — Turkish-Cypriot leader Rauf Denktash Friday left for Casablanca where he will head efforts to win recognition from Islamic nations for the self-proclaimed independent state of northern Cyprus. Mr. Denktash, who is due to meet U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar at the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) summit meeting, told reporters he would repeat an offer to meet Greek-Cypriot President Spyros Kyprianou.

Turks reject Cyprus settlement terms, page 2

## U.N. chief to meet Cheysson

PARIS (R) — United Nations Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar arrived in Paris Friday from New York for a two-day visit before going to Casablanca on Sunday for next week's Islamic summit. A U.N. spokesman said. The spokesman said Mr. Perez de Cuellar would lunch with French External Relations Minister Claude Cheysson Saturday.

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## Militias shell Lebanese army MNF battles Beirut gunmen

BEIRUT (R) — U.S. Marines and French soldiers in Beirut fought with gunmen Friday as anti-government militias in the mountains shelled Lebanese army positions and parts of the eastern sector of the capital.

In central west Beirut two gunmen on a motorcycle shot and slightly wounded Eliane Dechico, wife of the French cultural attaché, in the third attack this month on people associated with the French embassy. The sudden deterioration in security sent the Lebanese pound tumbling to a historic low of 3.60 to the U.S. dollar and dashed hopes that the Lebanese government could soon push through a plan to disengage the country's warring factions. The American and French troops, part of the Multi-National Force (MNF) in Beirut, suffered no casualties but two Lebanese civilians were killed and at least 10 wounded in shelling. Three schoolchildren were injured when snipers opened fire on their bus. The Marines, at the southern edge of their Beirut airport compound, fought a 30-minute battle with armed men who unleashed a hail of small arms fire from a building close to the Druze-held township of Shweifat. A spokesman for the Marines said they had fought back with tanks, anti-tank weapons, 60-

millimetre mortars and automatic weapons until the shooting stopped. Lebanese army units joined in with tanks and 50 calibre machine-guns, he added. Beirut airport suspended flights in and out while the battle continued. In central Beirut, French and Lebanese troops at the heavily defended Murr tower had a 10-minute battle with gunmen who opened fire from about 100 metres away. A Lebanese army spokesman said the incident began when a civilian in a car failed to stop at the checkpoint outside the tower. The gunmen were apparently acting in collusion with the driver, he said. Mrs. Dechico, 47, was coming out of her house near the French embassy when the motorcycle gunmen fired at her. One bullet grazed her face and she was taken to hospital for treatment, an embassy spokesman said.

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## U.S. should adopt neutral role in Mideast, Assad tells Rumsfeld

DAMASCUS (Agencies) — Syrian President Hafez Al Assad told U.S. special envoy Donald Rumsfeld Friday the United States could play a positive role in the Middle East if Washington took a neutral position in the Arab-Israeli struggle, the official Syrian news agency SANA reported. The agency quoted Mr. Assad as saying peace and stability in the Middle East required just solutions, the elimination of aggression and occupation, and the recognition of people's rights. The United States "could play a positive role in that direction should it adopt a neutral position in the Arab-Israeli struggle," Mr. Assad was quoted as telling Mr. Rumsfeld. The U.S. envoy arrived here Friday as Western diplomats said both sides appeared to want an easing of tension after relations had been strained over the Lebanese crisis. Mr. Rumsfeld later left for Beirut after meeting with President Assad, his first meeting with the Syrian leader since his appointment by President Reagan last November, Syrian officials said. Mr. Rumsfeld had two rounds of talks with Syrian Foreign Minister Abdul Halim Khaddam before meeting Mr. Assad. SANA quoted the Syrian leader as saying his country for years had worked and called for a just peace in the Middle East based on the U.N. Charter and resolutions of the world body. Mr. Assad referred to the "Israeli and Zionist influence" in the United States, and said "it is the

## W. Germany warns Israel

By Arthur Max Associated Press

BONN (R) — A senior West German government official warned Israel Friday against relying on a "military option" in relations with Arab neighbours. Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Juergen Moellmann, addressing industrialists just 10 days before Chancellor Helmut Kohl is due to visit Israel, said he understood the Israelis' need for security. "But we believe this need can be exaggerated. Israel cannot rely on the military option alone," he said. "We consider the interests of Israel and the Arab World. But we will not allow relations with one partner to be dictated by relations with another," he added. Mr. Moellmann was clearly referring to Israeli objections over possible West German arms sales to Saudi Arabia. Mr. Moellmann said he believed Jordan could play a key role in the creation of a Palestinian homeland on the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. "As far as I can see, he (His Majesty King Hussein) is the only representative of the Arab World who would be able to discuss the Palestinian problem with the Israelis." "The Europeans and the U.S. should now encourage King Hussein to take up direct negotiations with the Israelis and move Israel to become more ready for compromise," he said.

## Israel to cut, not freeze, settlement activity

By Arthur Max Associated Press

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM — Israel is cutting back on its plans to build more Jewish settlements in the occupied Arab territories as part of its programme to slash government spending, but some building will go on. Finance Minister Yigal Cohen-Orgad said Thursday. Mr. Cohen-Orgad told a news conference that the settlement programme would be among the worst hit in his plan for a deep cut in next year's budget. He could not say exactly how much would be spent on settlements in the financial year beginning April 1. His remarks were in line with Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's pledge that "there can be no talk in this government about a total freeze on settlements, despite the need to hold down spending. 'A freeze would be a political

## Cairo rally demands scrapping of Camp David treaty

CAIRO (R) — A popular rally held to mark the death of Gamal Abdul Nasser urged Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak to scrap the Egyptian-Israeli Camp David accords and sever ties with both Israel and the U.S. The rally Thursday, first of its kind in Egypt since the death of President Nasser 13 years ago, also chanted slogans against assassinated President Anwar Sadat and called for the formation of a new pro-Nasser opposition party. Some 5,000 people attending the rally here chanted: "Down with Camp David... we witness Arabs we never endorsed the agreement... Down with the U.S." One opposition leader, Fathi Radwan, told the rally: "We urge Mubarak to scrap the Camp David accords and deny any facilities to the U.S., the friend of our bitter enemy Israel." Another opposition leader, Sabri Mobadda, warned Palestine Liberation Organisation leader



Soldiers of the French contingent to the Multi-National Force (MNF) in Beirut fortify positions following attacks by unidentified gunmen (A.P. wirephoto)

## Arafat secures cautious backing from Revolutionary Council

TUNIS (R) — Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) leader Yasser Arafat has won cautious backing from the Revolutionary Council of his Fateh movement for his proposed new strategy for the PLO, according to a council communiqué. The Revolutionary Council, a body between the senior leadership and the rank and file of the movement, echoed resolutions made last week by the Fateh Central Committee which mildly chastised Mr. Arafat for a controversial visit he made to Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak last month. But the council also endorsed a Central Committee decision to study Mr. Arafat's proposals for closer ties with Egypt and renewed talks with Jordan on possible joint entry into Middle East peace negotiations, according to the communiqué, released Thursday. The talks on the Arafat proposals follow his ejection from north Lebanon last month by rebel and Syrian forces. Diplomatic observers interpreted both the Central Com-

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## Seven Israeli soldiers wounded in S. Lebanon

SIDON, Lebanon (Agencies) — Three Israeli soldiers were wounded Friday in an ambush near the inland market town of Nabatieh, raising to seven the number of Israelis injured in attacks in two days. The Israeli army said in Tel Aviv the three were wounded when a grenade was thrown at their patrol near Nabatieh. In Maghdousheh, just outside Sidon, armed men hiding in orchards opened fire with automatic weapons at an Israeli checkpoint. Lebanese security sources said. The Israelis fired back but first reports said there were no casualties on either side, they added. On Thursday, four Israeli soldiers were wounded when gunmen opened fire with automatic weapons and hurled a hand grenade at an Israeli patrol along the main coastal highway south of Sidon, security sources said. They said two Israeli jeeps and an armoured personnel carrier were travelling between the southern port city of Tyre and Safad, 16 kilometres south of here, when the gunmen attacked in the late afternoon. An Israeli armoured personnel carrier ran over a land mine on the eastern edge of Sidon Thursday morning but there were no casualties, the Israeli army said in Tel Aviv. At about 1 p.m., an hour and a half after the Awali closed, a woman was injured when a small explosive device went off in the main street of Sidon, eyewitnesses said. Other eyewitnesses said Israeli troops in a jeep had thrown the bomb into the street about two minutes earlier.

## Shultz says U.S. ready for improved Soviet ties

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — Secretary of State George Shultz, who meets with Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko next week, said Thursday the administration of President Ronald Reagan is "prepared for a thaw" in its relations with Moscow, but that "it takes two to thaw."

"We are prepared for a thaw, but whether there is one will reflect what the desires of the Soviet Union are," Mr. Shultz said in a news conference with foreign reporters. His remarks came as the Reagan administration appeared bent on creating the best possible atmosphere for the Shultz-Gromyko talks, which will be held in Stockholm Wednesday in connection with the European disarmament conference. He said that in his meeting with Mr. Gromyko in Sweden next week he is prepared to discuss the "full range of issues" dividing East and West and voiced hope that the Soviets will signal a willingness to resume the two interrupted arms control negotiations — the intermediate nuclear force talks and

## Israel restricts settlers' use of arms, page 2

In a 12-hour all-night meeting Tuesday, the cabinet's economic committee thrashed out a plan for trimming next year's budget by 940 million, he said. Israel's total budget is roughly \$20 billion, but of that \$8 billion to \$9 billion go for repaying debts, arms purchases and some food imports which cannot be trimmed, Mr. Cohen-Orgad said. Other budgets were being cut next year by an average nine per cent, he said. Mr. Cohen-Orgad said various ministries had not yet detailed their own budgets, so it was impossible to give a precise figure on how much was going for settlements. "The exact percentage (of the cut) is not yet defined, but let me guess that it will be considerably more than nine per cent," he said.

## King expected to resume duties soon

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein, hospitalised four days ago with a peptic ulcer, said Thursday he was in good health and would resume his duties within a few days. In a statement he made in a live radio broadcast from his hospital bed, the King also expressed appreciation and thanks for the concern by the citizens over his health and conveyed his greetings to the nation. Royal Medical Services Director Major General Dawoud Hanania told the Sawt Al Shaab daily that the King has suffered no complications and that two or three days rest have been assessed necessary by doctors for follow-up purposes. The King's private physician Maj. Gen. Samir Farraj, said shortly after the King was hospitalised. He will be able to resume his daily activities shortly. Dr. Farraj told Sawt Al Shaab. King Hussein was hospitalised last Monday, but nevertheless appointed a new cabinet, whose members took their oath of office at the hospital. He had earlier recalled the Jordanian Parliament after a 10-year absence. The King's illness forced postponement until next Monday of the Parliament's first ordinary session, at which he is due to make a speech outlining the new government's policy. Meanwhile, King Hussein continued to receive cables and telephone calls from a number of heads of state and government leaders of Arab and foreign countries, and senior Arab officials, the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, said. The Arab leaders, including Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, King Hassan II of Morocco, King Juan Carlos of Spain, Emir of Bahrain Sheikh Issa bin Salman Al Khalifah, Saudi Second Deputy Prime Minister Prince Sultan bin Abdul Aziz, Bahraini Crown Prince Sheikh Hamad bin Issa Al Khalifah and Prince Talal bin Abdul Aziz of Saudi Arabia, wished King Hussein speedy recovery and good health, Petra said. King Hussein also received cables from Turkish President Kenan Evren, Arab League Secretary General Chadi Klibi and Emir of Kuwait Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al-Sabah, Petra said.

## Hassan to head delegation for Casablanca summit

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan will lead Jordan's delegation to the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) summit conference scheduled to open in Casablanca, Morocco, on Monday, Al Rai newspaper reported Friday. Crown Prince Hassan will lead the delegation, which will include Deputy Prime Minister and Interior Minister Suleiman Arar, in the place of His Majesty King Hussein, who was hospitalised last Monday with a bleeding stomach ulcer. Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri will not be attending the OIC summit due to his commitment in Amman as a member of the recalled Lower House of Parliament which is scheduled to hold an ordinary session Monday. During the scheduled Parliament session King Hussein is expected to deliver a speech from the throne, outlining government policies.

## Occupied land, PLO and Gulf conflict figure high in OIC summit agenda

RABAT (R) — Muslim foreign ministers meeting here before next week's Islamic summit in Casablanca are expected to urge the meeting to resist Israel's decision to apply its laws in occupied Arab territories, a Palestinian source said Friday. The source told Reuters: "On the Palestine issue we have piles of resolutions but the crucial development now is imposing Israeli laws on the West Bank and Gaza. This will be a top item on the summit agenda." The foreign ministers, looking for consensus among the Organisation of Islamic Conference's (OIC) 43 members on a range of issues, also unanimously approved Friday a draft resolution condemning Soviet intervention in Afghanistan. The summit starting on Monday will face the continuing problem of the 40-month-old Iran-Iraq war and consider Egypt's possible readmission to the OIC, after it was suspended over its separate peace treaty with Israel in 1979. Efforts are also being made to try to bridge the gap between Syria and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), according to conference sources quoted by the Moroccan news agency. The Palestinian source said the introduction of Israeli law into the occupied territories was "a first step towards annexing the West Bank and Gaza. Israel made the same move before annexing the (Syrian) Golan Heights." Arab countries have denounced the move as aimed at obstructing Middle East peace efforts. A subcommittee composed of Morocco, Saudi Arabia and the

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## Shultz says U.S. ready for improved Soviet ties

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Reagan aides rule out breakthrough in arms talks, page 8



## Reagan aides warn Congress against Lebanon withdrawal

WASHINGTON (R) — The Reagan administration has told Congress that early withdrawal of U.S. Marines from Lebanon could jeopardise a tentative regional peace agreement. But opposition Democrats said they still planned to force a congressional vote on the issue.

The Senate Foreign Relations Committee Wednesday reopened hearings on U.S. policy in Lebanon and members were told by deputy Secretary of State Kenneth Dam: "Now is not the time to flinch."

The security plan, still being negotiated, would allow the government of Lebanon to begin extending its authority into areas outside Beirut.

It could pave the way for an eventual withdrawal of the Multi-National Force, made up of

French, Italian and British troops as well as the American Marines. Mr. Dam said that if U.S. determination were seen to be wavering, Syria, which is supporting Lebanese battling the Lebanese government, "will turn its back on the path of reconciliation and negotiations."

But Democratic Senator Joseph Biden, reflecting the frustration of many of his colleagues, said: "This is the wrong policy for the U.S., the wrong role for the Marines, the wrong time, the wrong cou-

ntry." The Senate committee is tentatively scheduled on Jan. 31 to consider the introduction of legislation forcing President Reagan to bring the Marines home by Feb. 25.

Syrian President Hafez Al Assad has told Mr. Reagan he wants a dialogue on the Lebanon crisis. But the White House said Wednesday it still considers Syria an impediment to settlement.

Mr. Dam told the Senate committee: "Syria's collaboration with Iran and Libya and its association with terrorist activities in Lebanon are an outrage and an affront to all parties who seek peace in the region."

But he said the administration was continuing to talk with the Syrians. The U.S. ambassador in Damascus had "good access" to top-level Syrian officials and U.S.

Middle East envoy Donald Rumsfeld would soon visit Syria again, Mr. Dam said.

The administration later urged Congress not to press for early withdrawal of the Marines from Lebanon because this would undermine the Lebanese security plan.

Republican Senator John Tower suggested that the agreement last May 17 on withdrawal of Israeli forces might be altered rather than cancelled.

But Mr. Dam reiterated the administration's support for the accord, which he called "an important piece in the jigsaw puzzle of the Middle East."

Opposition Democrats on the committee continued to question whether U.S. goals in Lebanon could be achieved and said that if not, the United States might be bogged down there indefinitely.



Chadli Benjedid

## Algerian president re-elected

PARIS (R) — Algerian President Chadli Benjedid has been elected by an overwhelming majority to another five-year mandate, the Algerian News Agency APS reported.

Quoting Algerian Interior Minister Mohamed Hadj Yala, APS said Mr. Chadli received 95.36 per cent of the ballots cast.

Mr. Chadli, who succeeded the late President Houari Boumedienne in 1979, was the only candidate and his re-election was a foregone conclusion.

In his interview with APS, monitored in Paris, Mr. Yala said around 96.27 per cent of Algeria's nearly 11-million-strong electorate had turned out for the poll. Mr. Yala said earlier that a computerised counting system had been set up to analyse swiftly the poll results coming in from the various regions and embassies.

A former colonel and commander of Algeria's western military region, Mr. Chadli has used his time as president to create a more moderate image for Algeria, previously regarded in the West as a financier of "international terrorism" and a "haven for hijackers."

Before the polls opened, the official daily El Moudjahid urged Algerians to say "yes" to Mr. Chadli's policies, which have steered away from the dogmatic brand of socialism advocated by Mr. Boumedienne in preference of economic pragmatism.

## Palestinian cleared of killing Sartawi

ALBUFEIRA, Portugal (R) — A self-confessed Palestinian was cleared of killing PLO moderate Issam Sartawi but was sentenced of three years prison for having a false passport.

After a week's trial the Portuguese court decided it could not be proved that Mohammad Hussein Rashid pulled the trigger, although he confessed to being part of the murder plot and acting as a decoy for the killer.

The 23-year-old Palestinian says he belongs to the Abu Nidal radical breakaway group.

Rashid, charged under the name of Youssef Al Awad which appeared on his false Moroccan passport, said Mr. Sartawi had been condemned to death because of suspected "links with Israel and American intelligence."

Witnesses to the killing in the lobby of a resort hotel here during a Socialist International Congress last April could not agree on the identity of the gunman. Some said more than one person fired the shots.

The court ruled that Rashid, who said he was a Jerusalem-born engineering student, be expelled from Portugal after completing his sentence and not be allowed to return for five years.

Although admitting to taking part in the plot, he could not be punished by the court for the conspiracy, because he was not charged with it.

He was cleared of the three charges of murder, attempted murder against Mr. Sartawi's aide who was injured in the attack and using a weapon.

Police arrested Rashid several hours after the attack in Lisbon where he had taken a taxi from Albufeira.

He admitted to murdering Mr. Sartawi to police and reconstructed the shooting a month later.

But in court he said he only admitted pulling the trigger to protect the assassins.

Mr. Sartawi, the first PLO representative to attend a Socialist International Congress and a close associate of Mr. Yasser Arafat, was a leading moderate who believed Palestinians could win a homeland through open negotiation and diplomacy.

He died immediately from head wounds after being hit by several shots at point blank range in front of horrified tourists in the seaside MonteChoro Hotel.



Yusef Al Awad

Shortly afterwards the Abu Nidal group led by a hardline commando opposed to Arafat, claimed responsibility.

Extra police were drafted into the sleepy town for the trial in the tiny local courtroom packed with reporters.

Rashid, who used an Arabic interpreter, told the court his real name only on the fourth day of the trial.

Soon after his arrest Moroccan consular officials confirmed the passport he used to enter the country from Greece via Spain, was false.

## OAU attempt for Chad peace talks fails

ADDIS ABABA (R) — Efforts by the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) to start peace talks between rivals in the Chad civil war have collapsed after a four-day wrangle over protocol, the OAU chairman said Friday.

The chairman, Ethiopian leader Mengistu Haile Mariam, said in a statement that he held the Chad government of Mr. Hissene Habre responsible for the breakdown of the talks planned between the government and rebel groups.

Mr. Mengistu, who sponsored the talks in the Ethiopian capital of Addis Ababa, said Mr. Habre's refusal to attend in person to negotiate with rebels headed by ex-President Goukouni Oueddei was the main reason they did not start.

He also criticised the Chad gov-

ernment 'delegation's' insistence that it alone should be allowed to sit behind a Chad national flag at the talks.

"One cannot but observe with dismay the reluctance of the Chad government to meet the opposition as evinced by its emphasis on marginal and protocol issues," Mr. Mengistu said in the statement published in the Ethiopian Herald newspaper.

The government-controlled Chad News Agency said Thursday when the talks already seemed doomed, that Ethiopia had shown it was firmly in the Soviet-Libyan camp.

Ethiopia and the secretary of the OAU, who excelled themselves by the frivolity with which they organised this conference,

will bear the heavy responsibility for its failure, the agency added.

Official sources in N'Djamena, the Chad capital, expressed disappointment at the collapse of the talks, which were due to start on Monday, and said Mr. Habre would persevere with reconciliation efforts.

There was no immediate indication whether Mr. Mengistu would make any further attempt to bring the government and the rebels to the negotiating table.

Diplomats said the fact the talks had broken down over protocol indicated they would have had little chance of success if they had started.

Mr. Habre was also suspicious of Ethiopian impartiality towards his government.

## Shultz rejects PLO role in peace talks

LONDON (R) — U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz Thursday rejected a British suggestion that Israel should be encouraged to accept the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) as a party to Middle East peace negotiations.

"I think the PLO still is an organisation that has said its objective is the elimination of Israel... I don't see it would be appropriate to make any such statement to Israel," he said.

Mr. Shultz was commenting on a statement this week by British Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe that the PLO had to be associated with peace negotiations.

He said he hoped U.N. forces could, in time, replace the four-nation Western force in Lebanon, but the problem was Soviet and Syrian objections to a U.N. role.

## Israeli president to visit African states

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (R) — Israeli President Chaim Herzog will visit Zaire, Liberia and Swaziland later this month, a presidential spokesman said Thursday.

Mr. Herzog will spend five days in Zaire as the guest of President Mobutu Sese Seko. The spokesman said the trip would enable the two countries to deepen the

"profound links of friendship that exist between them."

The president will travel to Liberia for three days before visiting Swaziland. Details of his trip there have yet to be finalised.

Most of black Africa severed diplomatic ties with Israel after the 1979-1980 "East-West" war. Zaire restored them in 1982 and Liberia followed last year.

Israel is anxious to extend its foothold in Africa and press reports have recently named several other African states that are considering renewing official ties.

Israeli military advisers are known to be active in several African countries despite the absence of official links and trade, including arms sales, is flourishing according to Israeli officials.

## Israel restricts settlers' use of arms

TEL AVIV (R) — The Israeli army command has issued new instructions to Jewish settlers in the occupied West Bank restricting their right to use firearms, ruling they can only open fire if their lives are in danger, settlers said.

The instructions follow the wounding of several Palestinians over the last few months by settlers opening fire on rioting or stone-throwing local Arabs.

Settlers complained Thursday that while the West Bank military government prepared the new rules two weeks ago, they were

distributed to West Bank and Gaza Strip settlers only this week.

The new instruction sheet says any settler "stoned" or "molested" by Arabs in any way should "break off contact," clear out of range as quickly as possible and tell the nearest troops.

Fire should be opened only in cases of direct, immediate danger to life, the sheet adds.

Previous rules issued only a few months ago said settlers should chase and try to detain Arabs trying to hurt them with stones or otherwise and were allowed to fire into the air to disperse rioters or

attackers.

Settlers said they would return to the military authorities personal weapons issued for self-defence and place full responsibility for their safety on the army, which thus would have to increase its presence in the area.

Gush Etzion (left bloc) settlers said more than half of the 600 Jewish families now living in settlements in the northern region of the West Bank around Nablus had already done this.

The West Bank Settlement Council is due to discuss the new regulations next week.

## Malaysia expresses concern over Iran's revolutionary Islam

KUALA LUMPUR (R) — Malaysian Deputy Prime Minister Musa Hitam Thursday told visiting Iranian officials he was concerned that Iran's revolutionary brand of Islam might be put to the wrong purposes.

A government spokesman told reporters Mr. Musa discussed the issue during a meeting with a three-man Iranian delegation led by Director General of Economic Affairs Sayed Mohammad Hossein Adeli.

Malaysian leaders expressed their concern over any misinterpretation and application of the Iranian experience and situation," the spokesman said.

He quoted Mr. Musa as asking the Iranians to appreciate the varied nature of Malaysian society which comprised Muslim Malays,

ethnic Chinese and Indians.

Three months ago Mr. Musa accused unnamed political groups of plotting a revolution to topple the constitutional monarchy and turn Malaysia into an Islamic Republic.

Mr. Musa said a Middle-East Islamic country which he did not identify, was encouraging the groups. Intelligence sources here said he was apparently referring to Iran.

Mr. Musa told the Iranians that Malaysia, where nearly half the 14 million population practise the national religion of Islam, allowed religious freedom.

He said Malaysia was introducing Islamic values into its administration but without upsetting the sensitivities of its different ethnic groups.

## Evren vetoes bill passed by parliament

ANKARA (R) — Turkish President Kenan Evren has rejected a parliamentary bill for the first time since military rule ended last month, but political commentators did not see the move as a challenge to civilian Prime Minister Turgut Ozal.

Exercising his constitutional right of veto, Mr. Evren Thursday night returned a bill passed by parliament last week on local elections scheduled for March 25. He said he objected to electoral procedures contained in the act.

It was the first time Mr. Evren had vetoed parliament since the 399-seat assembly, chosen in general elections last November, convened following the end of three years of military rule.

The action by Mr. Evren, who as chief of staff led the September 1980 military coup, prompted speculation that the military was intervening to prevent political parties barred from the general

elections from contesting the local polls.

The military regime originally proposed that only the ruling parties allowed to fight the general elections should be able to contest the local elections, but parliament voted to include the previously disqualified groups.

The votes of Mr. Ozal's majority Conservative Motherland Party ensured the passage of the local election bill and the inclusion of the non-parliamentary parties.

But Halil Sivgin, deputy chairman of Ozal's majority Conservative Motherland Party, told Reuters: "It is absolutely wrong to see the president's action as being against us."

He said the president's objections were based on legal grounds and he indicated that the government would amend the bill, saying it would "do whatever is necessary". Mr. Ozal and Mr. Evren were working together closely, he added.

The prime minister met Mr. Evren for an 80-minute session on Tuesday which presidential officials said was a "routine" get-together.

Political analysts said they did not regard the president's veto as an attempt to challenge Mr. Ozal's decision to allow the previously disqualified parties into the local elections.

The analysts said the extra time needed for parliament to reconsider the bill could delay the polls, pleasing Mr. Ozal's parliamentary opponents, the right-wing Nationalist Democracy Party and the left-of-centre Populist Party.

The two opposition parties wanted more time to organise for the local elections and objected to them being held at a time when many areas would still be in the grip of winter.

## TV & RADIO

### JORDAN TELEVISION

Time	Programme
17:30	Koran
17:40	Cartoons
18:00	Children Programme
18:30	The Family
19:00	Programme Review
19:30	Local Programme
20:00	News in Arabic
20:30	Arabic Series
21:00	Local Programme
21:30	Arabic Play
22:00	News in Arabic
22:30	Play Continued

### FOREIGN CHANNEL

Time	Programme
18:00	French Programme
19:00	News in French
19:30	News in Hebrew
20:30	M.A.S.H.
21:00	Portrait of power - Stalin Ep. 1
21:30	Saturday Variety Show
22:00	News in English
22:15	Feature Film: Hamlet Brooks
22:45	Officer Reed, Michael Pollard

### RADIO JORDAN

Time	Programme
07:00	Light Music
07:30	Morning Show
08:00	Newsdesk
08:30	Morning Show
09:00	News Summary
09:30	Morning Show
10:00	News Summary
10:30	Pop Session
11:00	News Summary
11:30	Pop Session
12:00	News Summary
12:30	Pop Session
13:00	News Summary
13:30	Pop Session
14:00	News Bulletin
14:30	Jordan Weekly
15:00	Music
15:30	Concert Hour
16:00	News Summary
16:30	Instrumentals
17:00	Old Favourites
17:30	Special Feature
18:00	News Summary

### BBC WORLD SERVICE

Time	Programme
06:00	Newsdesk 06:30 Let There be
06:30	06:45 Financial News 06:55 Ref-
06:55	lections 07:00 World News 07:05 British
07:05	Press Review 07:15 About Britain 07:30
07:30	New Ideas 07:40 Book Choice 07:45
07:45	The World Today 08:00 Newsdesk
08:00	08:30 Album Time 09:00 World News
09:00	09:05 News about Britain 09:15 From
09:15	the Weeklies 09:30 A Talent to Amuse
09:30	09:45 Network UK 10:00 World News
10:00	10:05 Reflections 10:15 Short Takes
10:15	10:30 Jazz Score 11:00 World News
11:00	11:05 British Press Review 11:15 The
11:15	World Today 11:30 Financial News
11:30	11:40 Look Ahead 11:45 People and
11:45	Politics 12:15 What's New 12:30 Just A
12:30	Minute 12:40 World News 13:05 News
13:05	About Britain 13:15 About Britain
13:15	13:30 Meridian 14:00 Radio Newsweek
14:00	14:15 Anything Goes 14:45 Sports
14:45	Round-up 15:00 World News 15:05
15:05	Commentary 15:15 Network UK 15:30
15:30	Motive for Murder 16:00 London's
16:00	Concert Tradition 16:30 Anything for A
16:30	Laugh 17:00 Radio Newsweek 17:15 Sat-
17:15	urday Special 18:00 World News 18:05
18:05	Commentary 18:15 Saturday Special
18:15	19:00 News Summary 19:05 Sunday
19:05	Special 19:45 Sports Roundup 20:00
20:00	Newsdesk 20:30 Play of the Week: The
20:30	Plough and the Stars 21:30 Album Time
21:30	22:00 World News 22:05 Commentary
22:05	22:15 Good Books 22:30 A Matter for
22:30	Debate 23:15 What's New 23:30 People
23:30	and Politics 24:00 World News 00:05
00:05	From our own Correspondent 00:30
00:30	New Ideas 00:40 Reflections 00:45
00:45	Sports Round-up 01:00 World News
01:00	01:05 Commentary 01:15 Letterbox
01:15	01:30 Meridian

## WHAT'S GOING ON

### TODAY'S EVENTS

"Painting exhibition by Ujemia Risk at the Royal Cultural Centre from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m."

"Orientalists' original paintings, at the Alfa Art Gallery."

### CULTURAL CENTRES

Centre	Contact
Royal Cultural Centre	Tel. 6610267
American Centre	44371
American Cultural Library	41520
British Council	36147-8
French Cultural Centre	37009
Goethe Institute	41993
Soviet Cultural Centre	44203
Spanish Cultural Centre	24049
Turkish Cultural Centre	36777
Haya Arts Centre	665195
Hussein Youth City	667181
Y.W.C.A.	41793
W.M.C.A.	664251
Amman Municipal Library	36111
University of Jordan Library	443555

### MUSEUMS

Folklore Museum: Jewelry and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 10th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 51760.

Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabal Al Qal'a (Citadel Hill). Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Fridays and official holidays 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays.

Jordan National Gallery: Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculptures by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Muslim countries and a collection of paintings by 19th Century orientalists artists. Muntazah, Jabal Leventeh. Opening hours: 10:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. - 5 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 30128.

Martyr's Memorial (Military Museum): Collection of military memorabilia dating from the Arab Revolt of 1916.

### SERVICE CLUBS

Lions Amman Club. Meetings every first and third Wednesday at the Tyche Hotel. 1:30 p.m.

Lions Philadelphia Club. Meetings every second and fourth Wednesday at the Amman Marriott Hotel. 1:30 p.m.

Philadelphia Rotary Club. Meetings every Wednesday at the Holiday Inn. 1:30 p.m.

Rotary Club. Meetings every Tuesday at the International Hotel. 2:00 p.m.

Royal Automobile Club. Jabal Amman. Eighth Circle. Tel. 415261.

### CHURCHES

St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Amman. Tel. 24590.

Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic) Jabal Leventeh. 37440.

De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Hussein. 661757.

Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox) Abdali. 23541.

Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer) Jabal Amman. 41559.

Armenian Catholic Church Ashrafieh. 71331.

Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafieh. 75261.

St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox) Ashrafieh. 71751.

Armenian Apostolic Church (Heterodox) meets at Southern Baptist School in Shmeisani. 66324.

### PRAYER TIMES

Time	Prayer
05:14	Fajr
06:37	Sunrise
12:30	Zuhur
15:30	Asr
18:30	Maghrib
19:30	Isha

## FOR THE TRAVELLER

### AMMAN AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Alfa Information department at the Queen Alia International Airport, tel. (08) 53250, 53070, 53052, 53171, where it should always be verified.

### ARRIVALS

07:00	Cairo (EA)
07:30	Aqaba (RJ)
09:30	Jeddah (RJ)
09:35	Karachi, Dubai (RJ)
09:45	Abu Dhabi, Kuwait (RJ)
09:45	Cairo (RJ)
10:00	Doha, Bahrain (RJ)
10:15	Beirut (RJ)
13:00	New York (RJ)
13:05	Kuwait (EA/EA)
15:30	Baghdad (IA)
16:00	Belgrade, Istanbul (RJ)
16:45	Larnaca (RJ)
17:15	Frankfurt, Geneva (RJ)
18:00	Copenhagen, Athens (RJ)
18:10	Paris (EA)
18:30	Cairo (EA)
18:30	Beirut (MEA)
19:00	Tripoli (RJ)
23:05	Cairo (EA)
00:00	Cairo (RJ)
00:35	Beirut (RJ)



## Municipality issues details of Arbor Day events

AMMAN (Petra) — Under the patronage of His Majesty King Hussein, a celebration will be held in the garden of Al Fateh mosque Sunday January 15 to mark the occasion of Arbor Day.

This year's celebration is being organized by the Amman Municipality in cooperation with the Ministry of Agriculture.

Another celebration Sunday will take place at South Habbash Centre under the patronage of Her Majesty Queen Noor.

Other celebrations will take place in various parts of Amman in accordance with a programme drawn up for this purpose, municipality sources say.

In Sabab, Minister of Industry and Trade and Tourism Jawad Al-Anani will attend a similar celebration to be held Sunday, at the new industrial estate.

11,000 seedlings will be planted during celebration.

In Jerash another celebration will be held Sunday morning at the Jerash Community College.

Jerash district governor and government department heads will take part.

## Bridge to reopen

AMMAN (Petra) — Directorate of Public Security Sources Thursday said that the Prince Mohammad bridge has been repaired. It is therefore scheduled to reopen to travellers, the sources said, from Friday January 13.

## Study to counter growth pangs in poultry industry

AMMAN (Petra) — An agreement to launch a comprehensive study of poultry farming in Jordan was signed here Thursday between the Ministry of Agriculture and a Swedish company. The JD 70,000 study will take six months to complete.

Ministry under-secretary, Or. Salem Al Lawzi, said that as a result of the development in poultry meat and egg farming which has seen the number of white meat farms increase to more than 1,000 while there are now some 200 farms producing eggs, certain problems came to the surface.

These were manifested in marketing difficulties due to the non-existence of fully equipped slaughter houses and egg-grading centres as well as the spiralling costs of feedstuffs and veterinary medicines. This, he said, led to marketing problems which reflected on the profitability of poultry farms leading in some cases to the closure of some farms.

The government has found it essential to carry out a comprehensive study of the poultry industry and to find suitable solutions that will guarantee the continuity and development of this industry in the best interests of poultry farmers and consumers alike.

The agreement was signed by the Ministry of Agriculture Mohammad Bashir and by the Swedish company's director general.

## Trains run on time

AMMAN (Petra) — Aqaba Railway Corporation officials said Friday that trains had resumed their usual schedule Friday morning between the phosphate mines in the south of the country and the port of Aqaba following a 24-hour cancellation of services due to a derailment.

## Masri meets Newell, expresses regret at U.S. withdrawal from UNESCO

AMMAN (Petra) — U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for International Organisation Affairs Gregory Newell arrived in Amman Thursday morning on a few days' official visit to Jordan.

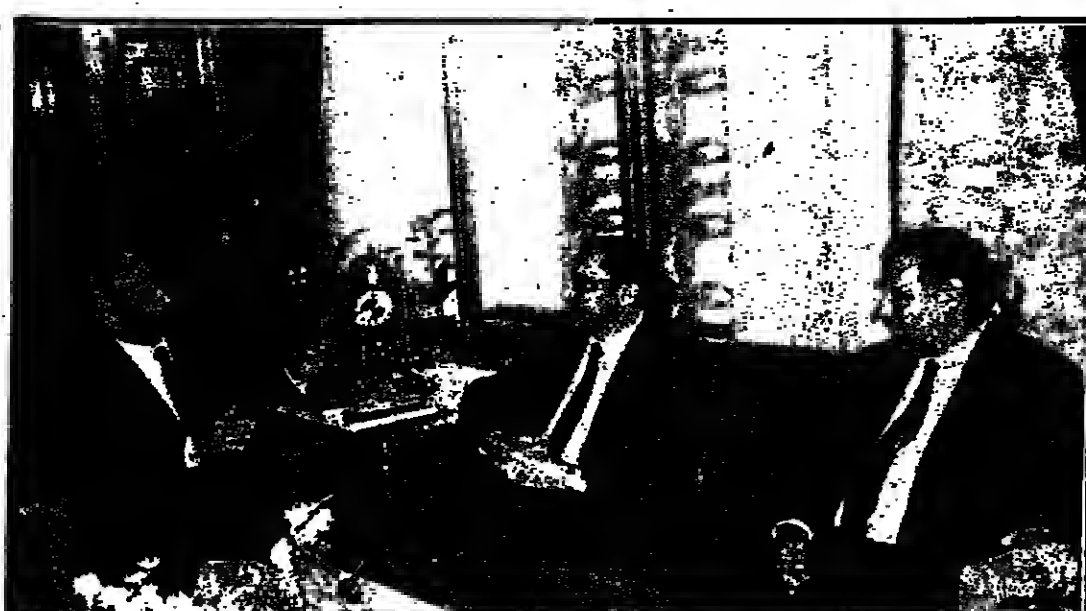
He was received upon his arrival by the director of the Political Department at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and a number of ministry officials, in addition to several high ranking officials from the U.S. embassy here.

Mr. Newell met Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri and briefed him on reasons behind the U.S. withdrawal from United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) and America's stance in relation to United Nations specialised agencies.

Mr. Masri voiced Jordan's regret at America's withdrawal decision and he hoped that Washington would reconsider its decision.

Also attending the audience were U.S. Ambassador to Jordan Richard Viets and the accompanying delegation.

Meanwhile, Mr. Newell also visited the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) field office in Amman and was briefed on UNRWA's programme and activities in Jordan by its Director Per Olof Hallqvist. He then toured the Hussein camp for refugees.



Prime Minister Ahmad 'Obeidat (centre) Thursday, along with Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Interior Saleman Arar (right), congratulate Ahmad Al Lawzi on his appointment as speaker of the Upper House of Parliament (Petra photo)

## 'Obeidat receives more congratulations

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Ahmad 'Obeidat continued to meet well wishers and receive congratulations over the weekend on his appointment and the formation of his cabinet.

Mr. 'Obeidat Thursday visited the outgoing Prime Minister Mudar Badran at his home. Mr. 'Obeidat was accompanied by Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Interior Saleman Arar.

Mr. 'Obeidat, accompanied by Mr. Arar, also Thursday visited Speaker of the Upper House of Parliament Ahmad Al Lawzi at the parliament and congratulated him on his appointment.

Meanwhile, Mr. 'Obeidat received Mr. Lawzi at the Prime Ministry Thursday. He also welcomed Court Minister Adnan Abu Odeh who extended his congratulations to Mr. 'Obeidat on his appointment as prime minister.

Mr. 'Obeidat also received, in the presence of Mr. Arar Thursday, representative of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) executive committee here Abdul Razaq Al Yahya, Brigadier Nihad Nusayba the military adviser of the PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat, acting director of the PLO Amman office Salim Shahin, Commander of the Pal-

estine Liberation Army (PLA) in Jordan Col. Naim Al Khatib and high ranking (PLA) officers who offered their congratulations.

He also received congratulations from parliamentary representatives from the occupied West Bank and popular delegations representing the West Bank as well as notables from refugee camps in Jordan, who wished the prime minister success in serving the nation under the leadership of His Majesty King Hussein.

Official and popular delegations also continued calling at the Prime Ministry to extend their congratulations, these delegations including former prime ministers and ministers, the director of public security and high ranking public security officers, heads of departments and senior civil and military officials, members of professional unions, directors of companies and business institutions, tribal notables, Muslim thinkers, prominent Christians, heads of municipal and village councils in addition to a large crowd of people.

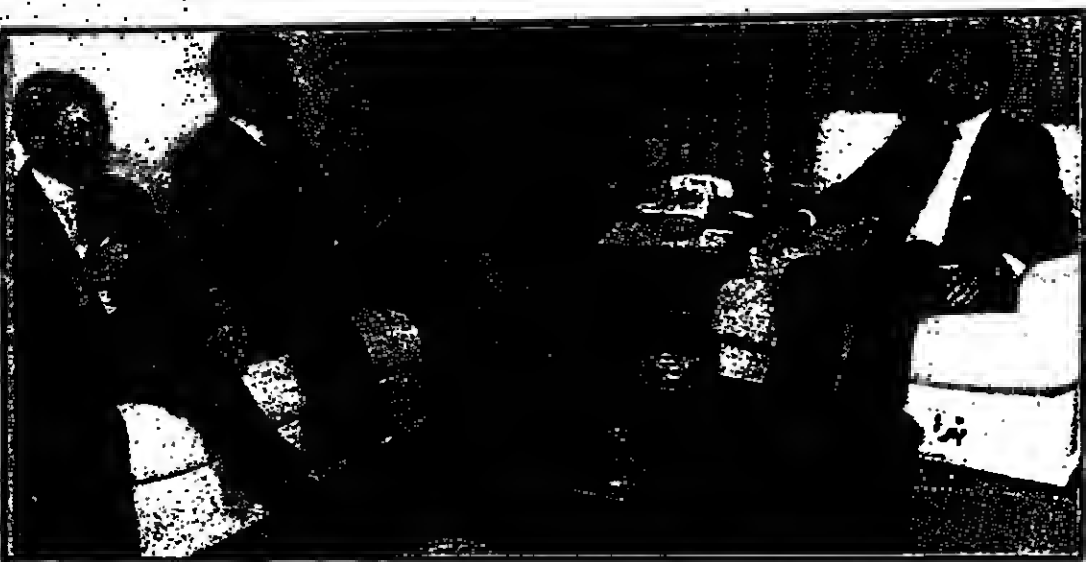
The prime minister also received many congratulatory cables on his royal appointment from prime ministers and ministers in

Arab and friendly countries and from Arab organisations in which they wished him success in the service of the causes and aspirations of the Arab Nation.

The cables were received from Tunisian Prime Minister Mohammad Mzali, Tunisian Foreign Minister Al Baji Qa'id Al Sabi, Bahraini Prime Minister Sheikh Hamad Ibn Issa Al Khalifa, Spanish Premier Felipe Gonzales and PLO executive committee member Hanna Naser.

Mr. 'Obeidat also received similar cables of congratulations from Kuwaiti Interior Minister Sheikh Nawaf Al Ahmad Al Jaber Al Sabah, Minister of State for Interior Affairs in the United Arab Emirates Maj. Gen. Hmoud Ibn Ali, Lebanese Education and Defence Ministers Issam Khouri and Sheikh Mesh'al Al Ahmad Al Jaber Al Sabah as well as Mahdi Al Obeidi, the secretary-general of the Council of Arab Economic Unity (CAEU).

Other cables of congratulations were received by Mr. 'Obeidat from Jordanian ambassadors abroad, Arab and foreign ambassadors accredited to the Royal Hashemite Court, heads of professional unions and directors of chambers of industry and commerce.



U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for International Organisation Affairs Gregory Newell (centre) holds discussions with Minister of Foreign Affairs Taher Al Masri (right) with U.S. ambassador to Jordan Richard Viets in attendance (Petra photo)

## Senate speaker meets Chinese delegation

## Lawzi: Jordan committed to seeking durable peace

AMMAN (J.T.) — Speaker of the Upper House of Parliament Ahmad Al Lawzi said Thursday Jordan's attitude towards the Middle East situation is based on the need to establish a just and durable peace in the region and that the Palestinian question is the core of the conflict in the area.

On receiving a visiting Chinese parliamentary delegation, Mr. Lawzi stressed that peace in the region cannot be attained except when Israel withdraws from the occupied Arab territories and the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people are restored.

He pointed out that the Palestinian people and the Arab Nation will do their best and will use every means to gain the restoration of their just and universally-recognised rights.

"Jordan will continue to play an active role in rallying Arab ranks, achieving Arab solidarity and preserving the legitimacy of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and its independent decision," Mr. Lawzi said, adding that active participation by Jordan in Arab and Islamic summits is a permanent feature of Jordanian policy for serving the Palestinian cause and various Arab causes in the international arena.

On Jordanian-Chinese relations, Mr. Lawzi said that friendship between the two countries is based on mutual understanding and interaction which "is a positive manifestation of commitment to human principles and values, necessary as they are for communication among world nations."

Mr. Lawzi praised the Chinese position on Arab issues, especially its attitude towards the realisation of peace in the region and its support for nations in their struggle for self-determination. "The peace aspired to by the Arabs," Mr. Lawzi said, "is obstructed by Israel's aggressive policy and expansionist trend which is today being practised in the Arab occupied territories and Lebanon."

Speaker for the Chinese delegation, Wang Ren Zhong reiterated his country's stance for a just peace in the region, and pointed out that Arab unity is the solid basis needed for victory over the enemy, adding the China is opposed to rifts within the Palestinian ranks.

On the Iran-Iraq war, Mr. Zhong said his country supported efforts being made to end it, and expressed appreciation of Iraq's peaceful attitude in support of a negotiated settlement.

In an interview he gave to the Jordanian Arabic daily newspaper Sawt Al Shaab, Mr. Lawzi said the Jordanian people's role in their country's life is important and fundamental, and the reactivation of parliamentary life is in full compliance with the Jordanian constitution.

Answering a question on interpretations linking the restoration of the elected parliament with a new Jordanian stand towards the PLO, Mr. Lawzi said the new step represents a resumption of a democratic tradition long endorsed by Jordan, and is purely an internal measure that has nothing to do with the status of the PLO.

The reconvening of the Jordanian Parliament by no means affects the PLO as the sole representative of the Palestinian people and its struggle for regaining its homeland, Mr. Lawzi stressed. What should be emphasised is Jordan's struggle for the Palestinian cause as an essential factor in serving that cause, the restoration of Arab Palestinian rights and the protection of the Arab presence in Palestine, as well as the serving of the general Arab cause, Mr. Lawzi added.

## Shawa: Restoration of Parliament beneficial to West, East Banks

### THE OCCUPIED WEST BANK

(J.T.) — The restoration of the Jordanian Parliament and the inclusion in it of West Bank Palestinians are to the benefit of both Jordan and the occupied territories, a prominent Palestinian leader said Thursday.

The former mayor of Gaza, Rashad Al Shawa, told Reuters: "This is an attempt by the King to save what is left of the West Bank. This is a good step, and there are people in the West Bank who support this step."

"These steps do not coincide with representing the Palestinians," he added.

Last week His Majesty King Hussein recalled the Lower House of Parliament to session after an absence of about a decade.

The 60-member House, suspended in 1974 following the Rabat Arab summit which proclaimed the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) as the sole representative of the Palestinians, consists of an equal number of deputies from the East and West Bank. Some of the seats are vacant at present mainly due to deaths over the past years.

Senior Jordanian officials have said the move to restore parliamentary life to the Kingdom is purely an internal issue and has no political bearing on the question of Palestinian representation.

The Jordanian move has drawn mixed reaction in the occupied West Bank and Gaza, primarily because of the inhabitants of the occupied territories do not fully understand its implications, news reports from there said.

Subsequent to the restoration of the Parliament, major changes were also effected in the Jordanian government and the country's political leadership. These changes include the swearing in of a new 20-member cabinet, headed by Mr. Ahmad 'Obeidat, the appointment of a new Upper House Parliament and reshuffling of senior posts at the Royal Court, apart from constitutional amendments approved by the Parliament which met in an extraordinary session in Amman Monday.

Bethlehem Mayor Elias Freij told Reuters on Thursday that he requested that the new Jordanian government would reach full understanding with the PLO in order to enter a dialogue aimed at joint political moves in efforts to solve the Palestine problem.

"I hope King Hussein will give greater importance to the matters of the West Bank and Gaza Strip... to free our people of the Israeli occupation as quickly as possible," Mr. Freij said.

However, some Palestinians in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip expressed concern Thursday that the Jordanian move would weaken the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and its leader, Yasser Arafat.

"It is clear that the King's recent steps are not for the good of the PLO," said Ali Yashin, editor of the pro-PLO Al Shaab newspaper in East Jerusalem. "Arafat is weak today, and Jordan wants to receive a mandate from Arafat to enter negotiations."

Bassam Shakaa, the dismissed mayor of Nablus in the West Bank area, declined to comment directly on the recall of the Jordanian parliament. "There are things which violate the decisions of the Rabat Summit and the decisions of the Palestine National Council," he said. "Each step which opposes those decisions is not positive," he added.

Other West Bank Palestinians expressed disappointment that Jordan had not chosen West Bankers "more representative" of the local leadership for the new government. Reuters said in a dispatch from the occupied territories.

They said the Palestinians chosen were unknown by the younger generation which has assumed leadership of the occupied territories since the 1967 war, Reuters added.

## Arafat secures cautious Fateh backing

(Continued from page 1)

narrowing nor widening of Mr. Arafat's room to manoeuvre politically within Fateh.

The council expressed the hope that the recall last week of the Jordanian Parliament, which includes Palestinian delegates, would not impinge on Arab recognition of the PLO as "the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people."

The council underlined the importance of Jordanian government statements that the recall of the parliament after a 10-year absence was an internal measure.

Diplomatic and Fateh sources said Mr. Arafat and his aides were concerned by the Jordanian move and suggested Mr. Arafat would

raise the issue with Jordan's delegation to the Islamic summit starting in Casablanca on Monday. The sources said Mr. Arafat might also visit King Hussein in Jordan following the Islamic conference.

The Revolutionary Council confirmed "the necessity of consolidating national unity with the Palestinian organisations which did not raise arms" against Mr. Arafat in Lebanon.

### Arafat defends move

Petra, the Jordanian News Agency, adds: "The Revolutionary Council emphasised that stepping up armed struggle tops the tasks of the Palestinian movement in the coming stage."

The PLO has been elected a vice-chairman of the ministerial meeting which opened Thursday.

Saudi Arabian Foreign Minister Saud Al Faisal plans to discuss with other Arab delegations an eventual invitation to Egypt to attend the summit.

But Arab hardliners including Libya have protested against the pro-Egypt mood and threatened to boycott the meeting if Egypt does attend.

On Afghanistan, OIC Secretary-General Habib Chatu said numerous heads of delegations supported demands for "the immediate and unconditional withdrawal of Soviet troops from

It also condemned the "conspiracy implemented by the Syrian and Libyan regimes against the Palestinian people and their bids to place themselves custodians on the Palestinian revolution."

Mr. Arafat said that his decision to visit Egypt and meet Mr. Mubarak was taken in accordance with a recommendation by the Fateh Central Committee.

Mr. Arafat also explained aspects of his visit to Egypt, saying that it was aimed at confronting the conspiracy, to "Balkanise of the area."

Mr. Arafat added that his visit was aimed at coordinating between the Egyptian stance and the Palestinian stance to face the "Balkanisation" policy which relies on sectarian rulers in the area.

The Lebanese army spokesman said Lebanese army units at Khald, just south of Beirut airport, and at positions in the hills above came under moderate to heavy shelling for about two hours but there were no casualties.

On the hills the army faces Syrian militiamen of the pro-Syrian Progressive Socialist Party (PSP), which government officials have blamed for blocking a plan to move the army into new areas as a prelude to resumed reconciliation talks.

There has been no concrete progress towards agreement on a final draft of the plan since PSP leader Walid Junblatt added new conditions on Wednesday.

The Beirut government is pinning what hopes it has left on U.S. special Middle East envoy Osoald Rumsfeld, who had talks in Damascus Friday with Syrian President Hafez Al Assad.

## MNF battles Beirut gunmen

(Continued from page 1)

The attack was almost identical to one on Jan. 3, when motorcycle gunmen seriously wounded the driver of the French consul as he waited outside the consul's house. The driver was last reported to be in coma.

The two civilians were killed and 10 wounded in shelling of the mainly Christian suburb of Hadath on the south-eastern edge of Beirut and near Beirut port, where the Lebanese army has artillery positions.

The school bus was attacked near Hadath while bringing about 20 children home. Pictures on state-run television showed its front window riddled with bullet holes.

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## Top-level Thai team holds discussions with Masri, Anani and Abdul Jaber

## Thailand, Jordan close to trade agreement

By Affah A. Kaloti  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Thailand supports a peaceful Middle East settlement based on U.N. resolutions which call for total Israeli withdrawal from all occupied territories, the Thai deputy minister of foreign affairs, Sub-Lieutenant Prapas Limpabandhu said Thursday.

Mr. Limpabandhu, heading a Thai delegation to the Middle East which arrived in Jordan Thursday, told the Jordan Times that a 17-day tour covering eight Middle Eastern countries and Singapore.

The 26-member delegation, which includes Thai officials from the ministries of foreign affairs, interior, commerce, agriculture and from the committee on social welfare and labour as well as from the house of representatives, is on a 17-day tour covering eight Middle Eastern countries and Singapore.

The countries in this region are Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Iraq, Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar, United Arab Emirates and Oman.

The delegation, which also includes 10 representatives from the Thai private business sector, has met several high-ranking Jordanian officials.

"We are the first foreign delegation to come to Jordan and offer congratulations to the new cabinet," Mr. Limpabandhu pointed out.

Asked about the aim of the visit to Jordan, Mr. Limpabandhu said that it is mainly to strengthen the



Prapas Limpabandhu

relationship between the Kingdom of Thailand and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, "a relationship which has always been good."

Another aim of our visit to Jordan, he added, is to strengthen Thai contacts with high-ranking officials in the Jordanian government.

A third purpose of the visit, Mr. Limpabandhu said, is to exchange views with Jordan on trade, manpower issues and aviation.

During the delegation's one-day visit to Jordan, the team met Minister of Foreign Affairs Hikmat Al Masri, Minister of Industry and Trade and Tourism Jawad Al Anani and Minister of Labour Tayseer Abdul Jaber.

Mr. Limpabandhu said that the delegation discussed the current Middle East situation with Mr. Masri.

### Trade cooperation

Referring to trade cooperation between the two countries, Mr. Limpabandhu said that the main aim of the Thai government is to conclude the trade agreement which was drafted during His Majesty King Hussein's visit to Thailand in mid-Sept. 1983.

During his meeting with Mr. Anani, he pointed out, "we received a counter-proposal from the ministry to the original draft agreement which comprised some minor amendments."

Mr. Limpabandhu pointed out that the agreement would be concluded in the near future.

He added that the negotiations are also aimed at establishing a framework within which Jordan and Thailand will trade on a regular and steady basis.

Mr. Limpabandhu said that the two countries would set up trade commissions "would establish an annual trade target and review past trading performances." This, he said, "would include adjustments in goods traded and would result in new items being added."

Asked about the volume of trade between the two countries, Mr. Limpabandhu said that it stands at present at \$15 million.

"The trade volume is in our favour but we hope that the proposed agreement will help bring about a balance of trade between the two countries."

### Thai labourers

In respect to the Thai labour force in Jordan, Mr. Limpabandhu said that there are about 5000 labourers in Jordan ranging from the skilled to the semi-skilled, including builders, carpenters, painters and office workers.

He pointed out that in the housing project at Abu Nuseir there are 360 Thai workers alone.

Mr. Limpabandhu said that the delegation met Mr. Abdul Jaber to exchange views on the question of Thai workers in Jordan.

"We have learnt that construction activity in Jordan is on the decline and that this of course will reflect in the demand for the overseas workers."

Regarding aviation cooperation between the two countries, Mr. Limpabandhu said that the Alia, the Royal Jordanian Airline, already operates two flights a week to Bangkok. Our discussion, he said, "will focus on the possibility of Alia using larger aircraft on the run so as to increase its load carrying potential."

The delegation, which left Jordan Friday, also discussed the possibility of agricultural cooperation between the two countries.

"We want to observe and explore cooperation in the agricultural field particularly in forestry," Mr. Limpabandhu said in conclusion.

The honorary consul to Thailand, Mr. Zubair Ashour, assisted the Thai delegation during their visit to Jordan.



# Jordan Times

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## ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

For Friday

### Al Ra'i: Education vital to future

THE LETTER of appointment from His Majesty King Hussein to the new government has stressed the significance of the educational and economic aspects of Jordan's drive forward. The educational achievements of the country, though worth being proud of, cannot be regarded as the end of the line if Jordan is to attain at educational standard that will serve economic development in the country and help Jordan further to move towards a modern life. Such an orientation should though by no means be alienated from our social values and long-standing traditions.

The economic dimension of the country's life should be given sufficient emphasis to help overcome our immediate hurdles. The economic fluctuations that currently plague the international scene in general and the Arab World in particular are most likely to affect financial transfers from Jordanians abroad. To face such difficulties is not a particular concern of the government alone but should be of nation-wide interest encompassing the producer, farmer, official and worker in an overall process.

A comprehensive plan drawn up by the government and contributed to by Jordanian citizens, should act as a guideline to strengthen the national economy and to keep it safe from uncontrollable fluctuations. The coming stage should witness a concentration of efforts and an improvement in the quality of our products to be able to stand the pressure so as to lay the foundations for further development. The educational and economic aspects of our life are vital in safeguarding our national achievements and our steadfastness against external challenges.

### Sawt Al Shaab: Shamir's sinking ships

THE LIKUD government has led the Israeli economy into suffocation under the strain of military expenditure and the daily blow it has received at the hands of the Lebanese National Patriotic resistance. The minor religious parties have extravagantly manipulated the Likud's need for their support to impose their extremist demands in order to promote the expansionist ambitions of the ruling Zionist institution in Israel. Now that the ship is sinking under economic pressures and from the daily loss of life in south Lebanon, these parties are threatening to abandon Shamir. They mean to free themselves from the blame for the bewildering crisis and the deteriorating situation.

Israeli Labour Party Chief Shimon Peres summarised the situation in Israel by saying that Israel's continued military presence in Lebanon has generated the enmity and hostility of a force much greater than that of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO). Some 500,000 southern Lebanese are unified in an actively-hostile attempt to block against Israel's presence. Israeli Defence Minister Arens has pointed out that Israel can no longer bear the heavy cost of its occupation of Lebanon. The question that still needs to be answered after Israel's decision to reduce its settlement programme is what would Israel have done if it had not received all the aid it has been granted by the U.S.? Could Israel have continued its occupation of the Palestinian and Lebanese territories? The United States has long talked about peace for the Middle East, while it has actually been concentrating its efforts on how to cement its alliance with those obstructing peace, encouraging them to invade other people's territories thus boosting their expansionist greed.

Thursday

### Al Ra'i: A firm foundation

NATIONAL UNITY and cohesion among the Palestinian and Jordanian people are remarkable features of this country and form the strongest shield that protects it from its enemies. This was emphasised clearly by His Majesty King Hussein in his letter to the new prime minister in which he outlined Jordan's domestic and external policies. In this letter, the King said that this unity constitutes a firm base on which this country is founded. The King was careful to point out that the Jordanian-Palestinian dialogue should continue with the purpose of arriving at a formula that would guide Jordanians and Palestinians in common action in order to liberate their homeland.

He stressed that Jordan, in cooperation with the Palestine Liberation Organisation, is responsible before history and should work closely together for liberating the occupied land and serving the future generation. The policies outlined in King Hussein's letter of appointment form guidelines for the new government and their fulfilment will no doubt be an achievement of the two peoples' aspirations.

### Al Dustour: Cooperation required

A HOST of urgent issues confront the Islamic foreign ministers meeting which opens at Casablanca, in Morocco Thursday. Their meeting is no less important than the subsequent meeting to be attended by their leaders who should find proper means for handling various problems that have caused divisions among the Islamic nations and to end conflicts among them. They should realise that the Islamic nations have been weakened over the past few years mainly due to the lack of unity and common action on the part of their nations, and due to a lack of cooperation among Muslims around the world.

Among the major issues which they have to grapple with is the Iraq-Iran war which has been a divisive element and a problem that has not only sapped the resources of these two Islamic countries but has caused Muslim countries to be imbricated in side disputes. The foreign ministers and their leaders are also called on to exert more efforts towards solving the Middle East problem and define a proper strategy for liberating the holy places, now under Israeli occupation. Without meaningful and sincere action, the Islamic nations will not achieve any progress. Without coordination and cooperation, they will not achieve any success.

### Sawt Al Shaab: The two crucial points

IN HIS letter to the new prime minister, King Hussein was very careful to emphasise two important points: Participation of the citizens in running the country's affairs and cooperation between the PLO and Jordan for the purpose of serving national causes. The letter of appointment clearly indicated the necessity of presenting the Jordanian-Palestinian joint action as a nucleus for pan-Arab action in dealing with the Middle East issue.

In fact there is nothing in Jordan's policies that does not affect the Palestinians nor is there any move by the PLO that does not have a direct bearing on Jordan, simply because the two peoples form a united country and one family. This relationship is further enhanced by the re-institution of parliament which represents the Palestinians and Jordanians alike. Unity between the two peoples should be manifested in parliament's actions and activities, and parliament is the best guarantee of their future.

## VIEW FROM AMERICA

# Did Shamir make concessions in Washington?

By Franz Schurmann

SAN FRANCISCO — President Reagan gave Israel a Hanukkah present, the new U.S.-Israeli strategic alliance. It was announced on the first day of the Jewish holiday of Hanukkah, which, last year, began on the last day of November. In the U.S., Jewish people have taken to the practice of celebrating Hanukkah because it is a feast of joy, by date close to the Christmas holiday of Christmas. It is, in a way, a Jewish "Christmas." Thus we can say that President Reagan gave Israel a "Christmas present." Why? And what kind of present is it?

One thing we can be certain of: What is inside the gift box will remain secret. We shall never know what promises the American president made to Israel and what concessions Israeli Prime Minister Shamir made in his visit that came just

before the Hanukkah present and a few days later the visit of Lebanon's president Amin Gemayel.

We can be fairly certain that it was a generous and very expensive gift. Clearly Mr. Shamir came to Washington with his own gift list that contained expensive presents. And also, clearly, Mr. Shamir was asked to do something in return for such a gift. As in the past, Israel has always set a very high price for even the smallest concessions it has made.

One concession is well known. Shortly before Shamir's visit, Israel released thousands of Palestinians from the prisoner camps in Lebanon. Many have gone to Algeria and Tunis. Others have stayed in Lebanon.

Seen even from a distance, it appears that the Arafat faction of the PLO has become the

"enemy of an enemy" of the Israelis. That means the Israelis no longer believe that they have that much to fear from what they always used to call "the terrorists." Or it can mean that President Reagan demanded that they make this concession, in return for which the Israelis demanded the strategic alliance.

There are other signs which could throw some light on the Hanukkah present. Ever since the Iranian Revolution, there has been vague talk in Washington about a "tilt toward Iraq." That talk has intensified lately. The line from Washington is that Iranians were probably responsible for the bombings that killed U.S. and French soldiers in Beirut. What that means is that U.S. policy-makers may have decided, finally, to give up on aut-

tempts to improve relations with the Khomeini regime. Iraq is an enemy of Syria, and so an "enemy of an enemy" of Israel. Syria, of course, sees itself as a friend of Iran. Saudi Arabia is a supporter of Iraq, a cool friend so to speak. Does that make Saudi Arabia, therefore, a friend of an enemy of an enemy of Israel?

All this suggests that Israel demanded of the U.S. president that Israel be included in any strategic planning regarding the Middle East that involves friends, allies, and possible clients of the U.S. that planning, as of now, appears to involve a line-up against Iran coupled with a policy of isolating Syria.

This also suggests that it was the U.S. that put pressure on the Israelis to release the PLO prisoners and that it was U.S.

pressure that brought about United Nations protection for the evacuation of Tripoli by Arafat's forces.

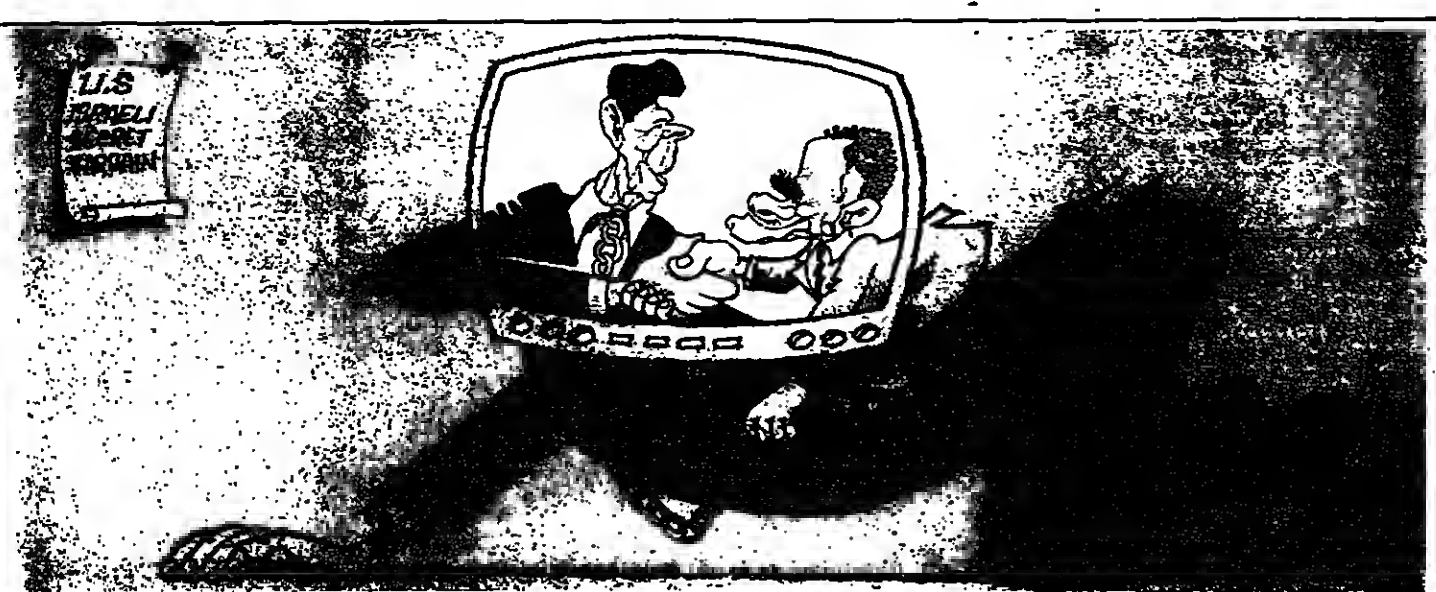
And lastly we saw no Soviet veto in the Security Council. How could they, after they spent so many years wooing Yasser Arafat? But their move was eased by the fact that the Soviets have been resupplying the Iraqis with weapons, and the poor relations between Iran and the Soviet Union, evident in the crackdown on the Iranian Tudeh or Communist Party. Does that now too make the Soviets a friend of an enemy of an enemy of Israel? Or, also, a friend of an enemy of an enemy of Israel's friend, the U.S.? It would not be the first time the U.S. and the Soviets worked together to "cool it" in the Middle East.

Behind all these tricky

moves, one can detect a fear of the kind of Islamic fundamentalism coming out of Iran amongst the Washington foreign policy strategists. The thinking appears to be: Let us build a wall in the Arab World against this threat.

But, Iran aside, what will it mean for Arab people concretely, and, more specifically, Palestinians?

The U.S. could have let Arafat be completely wiped out, once last year in Beirut and another time this year in Tripoli. With even a shrunken and badly battered PLO still alive, it remains as a shadow government for all Palestinians on the West Bank, in the Gaza Strip, or throughout the Middle East and the world. Israel may not fear it as much as in the past, but in the end it may have to deal with it.



## Stockholm: Sweden urges disarmament

By Richard Wallis  
 Reuter

STOCKHOLM — When experts from 35 countries meet in Stockholm next week in a new attempt to reduce risks of war, neutral Sweden will be fulfilling its role as a leading advocate of international disarmament.

The Swedes used even to have their own minister for disarmament, Alva Myrdal, who won the 1982 Nobel peace prize.



The cabinet post lapsed in 1974 as foreign ministers themselves began to take a more direct interest in the subject. But international disarmament remains official policy and enjoys broad political support.

Undeterred by apparent lack of progress in trying to end the arms race, the Swedish government is still pursuing efforts to dismantle the world's arsenals, acting as a self-appointed world conscience in matters of arms control.

Swedish officials are hailing the conference opening in Stockholm next Tuesday, grouping members of the NATO and Warsaw Pact alliances with neutral European nations, as the start of a new era after decades of what they see as sterile arms control debate.

The gathering's official title is the conference on confidence-building measures and disarmament in Europe.

But the accent in the first phase, which will probably last until 1986, will be on measures to reduce risks of surprise attacks or accidental war. Disarmament will figure on the agenda only in a second state.

Yet the shorthand title, the Conference on Disarmament in Europe, suits Sweden's style as a country which has forcefully espoused that cause during 150 years of peace and neutrality.

Sweden clearly hopes that its

years of efforts for disarmament will be rewarded by an agreement which will link Stockholm's name with peace in the annals of history.

The nearest link at present is the name of Alfred Nobel, the Swedish inventor of dynamite, who instituted the Nobel peace prize. But, under his bequest, the Norwegian parliament in Oslo is the body which awards it.

Swedish officials reject suggestions that Sweden has made a moral crusade of disarmament. "We have not made a moral issue of it. We have been acting in our own national interest," a disarmament expert at the foreign ministry said.

"We have always tried not to be utopian or messianistic," he added, stressing Sweden had never backed hopeless disarmament projects, but only those which were technically realisable if the political will existed to carry them out. Sweden maintains its own defence forces, and officials insist that support for disarmament should not be confused with pacifism.

Its active disarmament policy goes back to 1961 when the then foreign minister, Osten Unden, proposed a club of nuclear-free nations in Europe. The idea fell on deaf ears.

Since then, Sweden has been involved in efforts to get international agreement on a com-

prehensive nuclear test ban, destruction of chemical and biological arms stockpiles and a freeze on the development, production and deployment of nuclear weapons. None of these has so far met with success.

More recently, Prime Minister Olof Palme called for the creation of a Nordic nuclear-free zone, an idea strongly resisted by NATO members Denmark and Norway. Sweden has also been canvassing European states on a proposal to create a corridor free of battlefield nuclear weapons in central Europe.

The suggestion came from the independent commission on disarmament and security issues which Palme, a leading arms control campaigner in and out of office, chaired before he returned to power in September 1982.

Swedish proposals on nuclear issues are usually supported by the Soviet bloc and the Third World. Moscow has actively taken up the call for a Nordic nuclear-free zone, for instance.

Asked why Sweden was almost always opposed by NATO on these issues, officials said it was partly due to Swedish rejection of the alliance principle of nuclear deterrence.

"We simply do not believe that nuclear arsenals can be the guiding principles for international security," one commented.

## Though frustrated, Perez de Cuellar keeps trying

By Michael Littlejohns  
 Reuter

UNITED NATIONS — Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar, in the third year of the five-year term he swears is his first and last, has yet to record a big diplomatic success but admirers and critics alike say that at least he keeps trying.

Having started another of the long trips he professes to hate but cannot avoid, he is attending an Islamic states summit conference in Morocco and then four nine other African countries, including Nigeria.

Mr. Perez de Cuellar will be 64 on Jan. 14, but his schedule calls for him to spend his birthday travelling from Mali to Niger in an executive jet supplied by the Aga Khan.

The trip, arranged to demonstrate concern for the economic and human consequences of a devastating drought in the region, might have been made untimely by political developments farther south.

Parties to the conflict in and around Namibia (South West Africa) have asked the secretary-general to arrange a 30-day ceasefire from Jan. 31 that they hope may be extended indefinitely.

South African forces began withdrawing from Angola in the last few days following a month-long campaign against guerrillas fighting for the independence of South African-ruled Namibia.

Wrangles continue over how to secure a formal ceasefire and Mr. Perez de Cuellar's aides acknowledge it will be made no easier by his absence from U.N. headquarters during what could be a critical phase in the struggle to bring Namibia to independence.

Namibia represents the nearest thing so far to a diplomatic coup for Mr. Perez de Cuellar.

After some reluctance, he visited Cape Town last August for talks with South African officials and departed with all the pieces of the Namibia independence puzzle in place, save one.

This remains South Africa's insistence, backed by the United States, that Namibia's northern neighbour, Angola, first remove the 21,000-31,000 Cuban troops on Angolan soil.

Angola rejected this demand in its conditionally positive response last week to a South African truce initiative. Still, the secretary-general has said that he does not believe the problem is insurmountable, given mutual goodwill.

Cyprus is also a major concern for Mr. Perez de Cuellar, who, as a Peruvian government official seconded to the U.N., served in the island as special representative of the man he eventually succeeded as secretary-general, Kurt Waldheim.

Cyprus President Spyros Kyprianou called on the secretary-general here on Monday, hoping to invigorate the U.N. search for a settlement to the problems of divided Cyprus. This is now complicated by the Turkish-Cypriot proclamation in November of an independent state in the northern third of the country.

Another expected caller this week is Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau of Canada, who is engaged in a one-man effort to renew East-West détente and wants to discuss this with the U.N. chief, who has some cautious ideas of his own on the subject.

At a not-so-cautious press conference before Christmas, Mr. Perez de Cuellar chastised the Soviet Union and the United States, reminding their leaders the



world had not made them the custodians of its fate.

He urged Presidents Reagan and Andropov to show courage and good sense, to meet face-to-face to halt the arms race and a nuclear confrontation that he said threatened global disaster.

However, he does not appear to have embraced the idea of a summit session of the U.N. Security Council, in which the United States, the Soviet Union, China, France and Britain are permanent members. Aides say he believes the idea a non-starter.

His generally relaxed diplomatic approach, in sharp contrast to Mr. Waldheim's frenetic energy and desire to involve the U.N. in everything, is faulted by those who suspect him of being overly protective of his office and unwilling to take chances for fear of failure.

Others say he simply recognises his limitations. Perhaps significantly, they say, his reminder to Moscow and Washington of humanity's clamour for peace and détente went officially unremarked in either capital.

Mr. Perez de Cuellar said when he took office he would not forget he was from the Third World. Yet he is no radical, and a conservative Western ambassador has called him "one of us."

His relations remain correct if not warm with the Communist states, including the Soviet Union, where he served as Peru's first ambassador to Moscow.

Unlike Mr. Waldheim, who castigated Israel and South Africa unmercifully, and Secretary General U. Thant, who was a gadfly for Washington over Vietnam, Mr. Perez de Cuellar does not believe in hectoring member states.

Still, he has sometimes irked the Israelis, insisting that the U.N. must have a major role in the search for an overall Middle East peace. Israel regards the U.N. as hostile and Arab-dominated.

So far, Mr. Perez de Cuellar has not followed up his own advice with any personal Middle East peace initiative. Although he has visited 36 states since he took office, Kuwait is the only place he has been to in the Middle East.

## Mexico's king of trade unions is aging

Mr. Fidel Velazquez, aged 83, is a trade union leader whose power extends into the government. William Chislett met this grand old man of Mexico.

MEXICO CITY — Unity is saving Mexico from disaster," says Mr. Fidel Velazquez, the 83-year-old king of the country's trade union movement. Don Fidel, as he is reverentially called, is himself regarded as the main unifying factor which has held Mexico together and allowed the country, until its present crisis, to enjoy a long period of high and sustained economic growth.

Mexican presidents come and go, but Don Fidel, head of the Confederation of Mexican Workers (CTM), which groups over half the seven million unionised workers out of a total labour force of 20.6 million, has survived seven presidents. The CTM is the main pillar of the Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI) which has governed Mexico for 54 years.

Mexicans joke that Don Fidel is "immortal." It is a national pastime trying to work out when he will retire, and he has already been commemorated with a statue.

Outside his office in the new five-storey CTM building, well-dressed, portly trade union leaders speak in hushed tones when they wait, sometimes for hours, to see him. A PRI state governor whisked through the grounds as he arrives, emerging from Don Fidel's office five minutes later. No visit to Mexico City is politically worthwhile without a

courtesy call on Don Fidel. Unity runs like a theme through his conversation. He wears tailor-made pinstripes and puffs at a fat cigar. While he talks, his eyes hardly move behind his tinted glasses.

"We have to be very careful that our differences with the government do not divide us," he says, admitting that it has not been easy to persuade workers to tighten their belts and take a large drop in purchasing power, to help solve Mexico's serious debt crisis.

Without the CTM's support, the government could not implement its stabilisation programme with the International Monetary Fund. "The situation is getting worse day by day and we do not know for how much longer we can maintain social peace," Don Fidel says.

The union leader was 10 years old during the bloody anarchy of the 1910 Mexican revolution, in which one million people were killed. He began work as a milk roundman and in 1923 headed the milk industry's union. After the PRI was founded in 1929, in an attempt to create institutional channels to solve the disputes between warring factions, he was instrumental in forming the party's labour sector. The PRI also has peasant and middle class

as we mentioned a figure, companies put up their prices and then do so again after the increase is granted.

It is understood that wages will rise in line with next year's projected rate of inflation of 40 per cent, but there will be no re-employment of the 25 per cent decline in real wages this year. Unionised workers, however, unlike the impoverished army of unemployed and underemployed, cushioned by cheap government housing and free medical care.

Don Fidel has long been campaigning in vain for the establishment of benefits for the unemployed and a 40-hour week, which he says would increase full time employment by 18 per cent. "Now more than ever these things are needed." The economy was no longer creating the 700,000 new jobs needed to satisfy entrants to the labour market.

The fierce competition for jobs is having a moderating influence on union demands. The Left accuses Don Fidel of having sold out to the government and of allowing a corrupt aristocracy of union leaders to be in league with the private sector. Businessmen admit that they pay union leaders to "control" their members.

Don Fidel himself has a clean reputation, which may explain his popularity. It is said that he used to personally visit his bank every month to pay off a loan he had obtained to buy a piece of land on which to build a house. "Most union leaders are so rich they can

pay for anything straight off," said an observer.

Don Fidel has no time for the Left, whom he accuses of being dogmatic.

He is more concerned about the recent gains in municipal elections by the Right wing National Action Party (PAN) than any threat posed by the United Socialist Party of Mexico. The PRI, he said, needed more internal democracy and better candidates in order to reform itself and regain people's confidence.

He criticised state governors and influential public officials for designating candidates over the head of the PRI and imposing them on the party's middle class and peasant wings. This was causing a lot of bad feeling and was losing the PRI votes.

Don Fidel laughed at the widespread fears expressed by Mexican and foreign businessmen that when he leaves the CTM there will be a left wing shift in the movement and inter-union rivalry which could split the organisation. He has left no known successor and all his lieutenants are well over retirement age. The younger generation of official union leaders is more radical.

"These fears are unfounded. One day I have to retire. I cannot think of running the CTM in ten years' time. Workers are conscious of the need for unity and to maintain their relationship with the government. Only in this way can Mexico continue to grow." — Financial Times news feature





# Talking straight Marwan Muasher

Since their independence, many Third World countries (or governments) have argued for a strong, centralised government as opposed to a parliamentary, democratic system. The popular, and sometimes strong, argument is

## Family, state and the individual: Where do we draw the line?

that in countries that are poor or still in their infancy, only a strong government can bring out effective economic development to its citizens. Therefore, the priority should be placed on such a development rather than on individual freedoms of all kinds. The view taken is that democracy is a luxury Third World countries cannot afford at the present time, at least until they can stand up on their own feet.

The argument, undoubtedly, has its strong points, and it has proven at least some degree of success in many countries in which it was applied. It led in part to the establishment of strong central governments in such countries that cover the length of the political spectrum. Thus the Third World today is governed by systems that range from the extreme left to the ultra-right. As differing as these systems are, they nevertheless share the common factor of power being concentrated in the hands of the few. Where such countries are ruled by benevolent rulers, the argument has found considerable success (in bringing about economic prosperity). And where other countries have not been so fortunate, it has spelled disaster for a lot of people.

Critics of this argument charge that it does not provide for a way in which people can learn about democracy to the point where they can start practising it eventually. Thus, while a strong government might be desirable, indeed necessary now, what guarantees that such a government would allow its citizens to evolve politically to the point where they mature enough to have a larger say in governing themselves? Why, these critics ask, can other nations enjoy both material wealth and individual freedoms, while Third World countries are expected to settle for economic security. This counter-argument always raises the fear that strong central governments, willingly or unwillingly, help consolidate the positions of those in power at the expense of the disadvantaged.

Needless to say, the potential for abusing power is great when it is narrowly concentrated. The state in such systems, having an almost unchecked legislative and executive hand, continues to issue laws intended to regulate society at times, and censor it at others.

These laws, being not exhaustively debated and scrutinised by people or their representatives, become instant gospel. While they are often effective and beneficial to society, they can also be at times extremely hazardous.

The arenas in which people have often debated the extent of governments' authority are those of politics and economics. But what I would like to address in this column are other arenas in which the state often has a big say. These are arenas of social and moral nature, where it is difficult to draw a fine line as to where state authority ends.

Let us suppose that the state decides that the country is in bad need of a new communications network. Instead of taking months debating the need for such a project in a typical democracy, the state immediately allocates the money for the project and starts to execute it. Such an act can be argued to be justifiable, even necessary in a Third World country, and might not stir up a large controversy.

But then, the state is often faced with taking decisions of a "hairier" nature than the one outlined above. Suppose a controversial book about society or politics is published. The state here often decides, rightly or wrongly (depending on one's point of view), whether it should allow its citizens to read that book. In the many cases that a decision is taken against allowing the book, the question of infringement upon not only individual freedoms, but also personal choices is rightly asked. Should a state assume some form of moral control over its citizens or not?

Traditionally, the family has been the most basic unit where such questions are resolved. Thus, the parents exercise various degrees of control on what their children can watch, read, go out with, etc., at least until, and often after, children reach the age at which they are able to make such decisions for themselves. But man has always accepted the role of some higher authority than the family to also set moral standards. Every state in the world today exercises some form of moral authority over its citizens, however mild or severe that form is.

There are states that allow the individual to exercise his freedom of choice to a great extent, with few limitations. In such states, for example, drinking alcohol is allowed, people are free to publish and read books of all natures, different life-styles are accepted, newspapers and movies are not censored, etc. People in such states often defend the right of others to practices they themselves might not condone, because they cherish and value the idea of personal choice above all.

Not all states are like that, though. There are all kinds of restrictions that states place on culture and society, ranging from censoring books and movies all the way to placing restrictions on who one can or cannot marry or what clothes he should or should not wear.

The question that is posed at this stage is this: Where do we draw the line? Where do we think it is or it is not the state's business to meddle with our personal affairs? How tight a control are we willing to let the state have in matters that are not so much of a political nature, but of a personal one?

There are many schools of thought in this regard. Those that are in favour of tight controls argue that it is the state's responsibility to regulate not only people's economic or political practices and ideas, but also their social and moral ones. The state should act, they say, as a father figure, responsible for the moral well-being of his children. Otherwise, society would run loose, with consequences no one can predict. It is not an individual right, they claim, to read or watch what he pleases, for example, because this will reflect on society, and thus is not merely a personal choice that only affects the individual.

Those who are opposed to such tight controls argue that it is not the state's business to set moral standards of a personal nature for its citizens to follow. Instead, moral standards have been always derived by the individual from other sources, religion, ideology, etc. The individual usually abides by these regardless of where the state stands on the issue. The most alarming thought to such people is that once people accept the state's right to interfere in personal matters, it becomes difficult to draw the line. Thus, if one accepts the principle of the state having a say in what he watches, should he also accept the notion of the state deciding for him whom he can marry?

Probing into family and personal life is a messy affair, and one that should be exercised with great caution, some people claim. While the purpose is often a healthier society, such practices might lead to a closed-minded one, in which ideas are not freely exchanged in the name of security and well-being of the state.

There is no clear-cut answer to all these ideas and counter-ideas. Each society has to decide for itself what controls it wants to impose upon itself. One thing is certain, though. Long after states resolve the political problems they have and choose a certain political system to abide by, they will still have the more complex problem of a state's moral jurisdiction to contend with.

## Aqaba Marine Science Station protecting a segment of nature's legacy to Jordan

AQABA — Several kilometres south of the city of Aqaba, along the coast of the Red Sea that forms the Gulf of Aqaba, is situated a cluster of low buildings.

The compound give little indication of its purpose, and only the wandering eye of a slow-paced motorist would notice the sign at the entrance which reads: Aqaba Marine Science Station.

Occupying 40 acres of land along a one-kilometre stretch of seacoast, the Station is the working centre of Jordan's interest in the study and preservation of the wealth of unusual marine life contained within the waters of the Gulf.

At this southern section of Jordan's coastline, the mountains push close to the shore and descend sharply underwater in steep submarine cliffs.

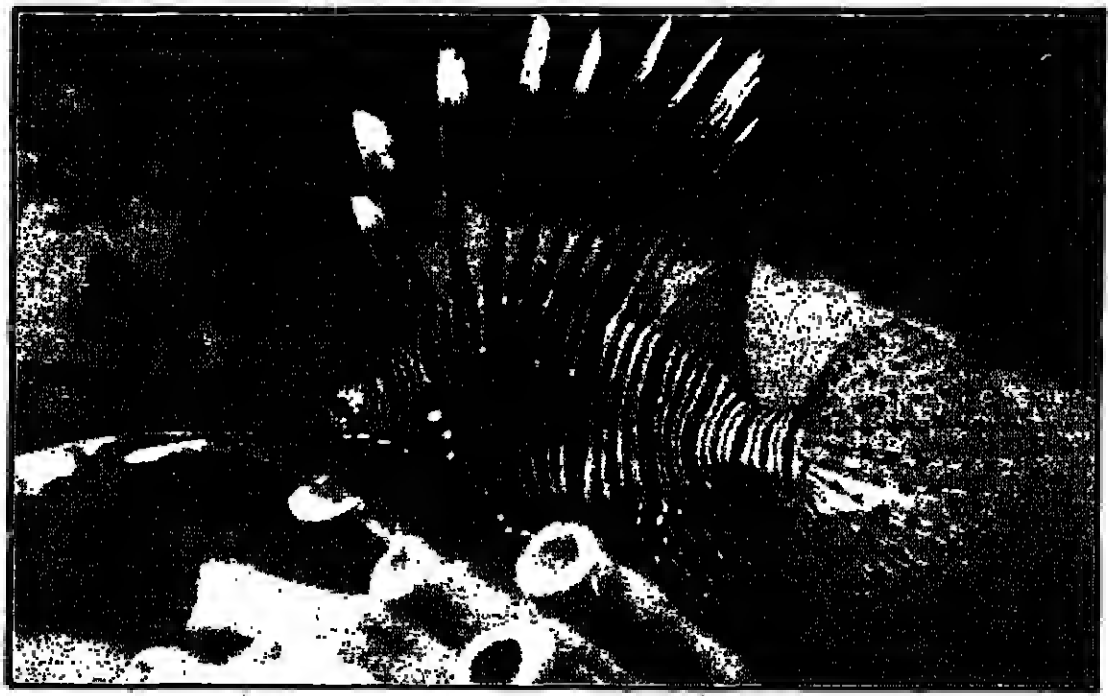
Fringing the cliffs is a long stretch of coral reef that extends parallel to the shore all along the Gulf southward. Along this massive coral shelf, a myriad of tunnels, crevices and different surfaces has formed one of the richest and most productive marine habitats on earth.

Thousands of species of sea organisms live and thrive there, furnished with ample space and food by the diversity of the reef structure and its community.

For years, scuba divers from all over the world have been coming to Aqaba to explore and photograph this rare and beautiful marine world, dazzled by the incredible variety of its fish and coral formations.

To protect this important segment of nature's legacy to Jordan, a group of concerned scientists from the University of Jordan and Yarmouk University joined together several years ago to establish an institution devoted to marine ecology and oceanography.

His Majesty King Hussein, who had the experience of several years of scuba diving himself in the Gulf waters, took a personal interest and made available a choice piece of land for the project. And in 1977, the two Jordanian universities signed the agreement making them official co-sponsors, financially as well as operationally, of the proposed Station.



Lion fish (pteris volitans) and branching tube sponge.

In September 1982, after all buildings were in place and fully equipped, four scientists from the two universities took up residence at the Station and began their work, along with a staff of several research assistants and diving personnel. Research facilities at their disposal include laboratories, an aquarium, a museum and library, diving blocks and a patrol boat.

The Station also houses a cafeteria and sleeping accommodations for up to 40 visiting researchers and students, in readiness to receive qualified applicants from Jordan or abroad who are working in marine ecology and oceanography.

The Station particularly hopes to develop an exchange programme with similar institutions worldwide and thus establish ongoing links of research communication that could prove mutually beneficial. All inquiries, of course, are welcome.

The Station, also serves as an onsite classroom for students of Jordan's universities interested in pursuing specialised studies in marine sciences.

In addition to basic research on marine fauna and flora, the Station conducts work in the fields of navigation, pollution, marine chemistry, marine physics and other related subjects.

One valuable research project under way, which is geared to assist the Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature in its anti-pollution campaign in Aqaba, is the study of metal pollution in the Gulf Waters.

Although this type of pollution does not present a problem at present, the rapid industrialisation taking place in Aqaba has prompted the Station to make a daily



Coral, one of about a hundred varieties, found in the Gulf of Aqaba.

check of water samples to measure any increase that may occur.

Another project, being undertaken in cooperation with Nice University of France, is research into the possibility of extracting and purifying toxins from sea animals for pharmaceutical purposes.

Directing the Station is Dr. Ahmed Abu-Hilal, who earned his doctorate in chemical oceanography at Liverpool University. A quiet man, with the typically studious air of a researcher, Dr. Abu Hilal is also interested in extending the activities of the Station to include a programme of public education in marine life.

The Station Aquarium, which he and his staff have stocked with various species of fish and marine organisms, have been attracting an increasing number of visitors, especially school children on field trips.

Tourists to Aqaba, too, are finding that a visit to the Marine Science Station is not only fascinating but educational as well. One fish many ponder on is the Clown Wrasse, whose sex changes with age from female to male. — Jordan Magazine.

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## Pakistan scores shock win over West Indies in World Series

MELBOURNE (R) — Pakistan, playing some inspired cricket, sensationally beat the formidable West Indies by 97 runs in a one-day World Series Cricket Cup match on Thursday.

The West Indies, who had not lost in one-day cricket since their shock defeat by India in the World Cricket Cup final last June, were skittled out for 111 runs in reply to Pakistan's 218 for eight.

The Pakistanis, beaten by Australia in their opening match of the triangular competition, had the one-day masters on the run from the first over when opener Richard Gabriel was run out.

Viv Richards, Desmond Haynes and Larry Gomes all went in quick succession, two of the wickets going to medium-pace Rashid Khan, and the West Indies had crumbled to four wickets for only 11 runs.

Captain Clive Lloyd and wicketkeeper Jeffrey Dujon stopped the flow of wickets but then young paceman Azeem Hafeez removed both batsmen in a devastating spell which also sent back Eldine Baptiste and Michael Holding who was superbly caught and bowled.

The West Indies, Australia and Pakistan have now played two matches and won one each in the tournament.

The West Indies' task of knocking off the four runs an over needed to beat the Pakistanis should have been relatively easy on a good batting wicket.

The Pakistanis, for whom Qasim Omar scored 64 and was named Man of the Match, would have scored more runs but for another disastrous runout involving Javed Miandad.

The Pakistanis' number four, who ran out captain Imran Khan in last Tuesday's defeat by the Australians, this time sent his partner Mansoor Akhtar on a suicidal second run as the runs were beginning to flow.

Mansoor's departure followed by that of Imran for only seven put the Pakistanis in trouble at 87 for four after a good start and it took a valuable partnership of 45 between Omar and Miandad to save the innings.

Both Miandad, who hit 41, and Omar were bowled in a desperate bid to force the runs and set the West Indies a tough target.

The West Indies, who came to the World Series Cup fresh from a 5-0 one-day drubbing of India, began their innings disastrously when opener Richard Gabriel ran himself out in the first over.

The early wicket lifted the Pakistanis and incredibly with only nine on the board, the veteran Sarfraz Nawaz had Viv Richards caught superbly in the gully by Abdul Qadir.

Worse was to follow, Rashid

Khan, dubbed 'Mr. consistency' by Imran, first clean bowled Desmond Haynes for two which took him 31 minutes, then saw an edged shot from Larry Gomes brilliantly held by Qadir.

Lloyd and Dujon propped up the innings but the score crawled along at a snail's pace, making victory more difficult and bringing the slow handclap from the 13,000 crowd — a rare sound for the West Indies.

The pair added 35 runs before young paceman Azeem Hafeez, the success of the test series against Australia, dismissed first Lloyd, who was caught by Mansoor Akhtar, then Dujon, top scorer with 30.

Azeem added the wickets of Holding and Baptiste in his spell which earned him figures of four for 22 off his 10 overs.

Azeem, who has missing fingers on his right hand, also turned in a fine fielding performance, first catching Holding off his own bowling high to the left, then clutching a long hit from Malcolm Marshall of Sarfraz.

When Marshall went for 20, the West Indians were six short of a hundred with only one wicket left, but Joel Garner, who was unbeaten on 21, and Wayne Daniel, took the score to the relative respectability of three figures.

The West Indies, who beat the Australians in their opening game on Sunday, will be looking for revenge when they meet the Pakistanis again on Saturday in Brisbane.



## Zico meets Lebanese mascot

Brazilian soccer star Zico, recently named the most popular foreign player in Italy, met on Thursday with 12-year-old Lebanese Mustafa Hawi in Milan.

Italian contingent of the Multi-National force in Beirut, is now touring Italy where he will possibly complete his studies thanks to the funds donated by an Italian who won a lottery. (A.P. wirephoto)

Master Hawi, who became the mascot of the

## Soviet Union ends dispute with Korchnoi

AMSTERDAM (R) — The Soviet Union Friday ended its boycott of chess tournaments involving grandmaster Viktor Korchnoi, closing a dispute that has split the chess world since his defection from Moscow in 1976.

Two Soviet grandmasters and Korchnoi were among 14 players who opened the Hoogovens chess tournament Friday at Wijk Aan Zee, a small coastal resort near Amsterdam.

The two Russians, Alexander Belyavsky and Vladimir Tukmakov, are the first to play voluntarily in an independent tournament against Korchnoi since he left his native land, chess experts said. Soviet players have normally withdrawn if he was included.

Korchnoi, 52, who now plays under the Swiss flag, has met Soviet players only in world, country or club matches where had the Soviet Union withdrawn it would have been eliminated from the competition.

Meetings with Soviet players have generated extraordinary tension and argument, notably when Korchnoi and Anatoly Karpov clashed for the world title in the Philippines in 1978 and Italy in 1981. Karpov won both matches.

The Soviet decision to end its boycott followed contacts with Korchnoi in which he helped solve a major problem over the latest World Championship matches, chess sources said.

The Soviet Union withdrew both its players from world semifinals last year because it opposed the venues. This gave Korchnoi and Hungarian Zoltan Ribli walkover victories.

The dispute threatened to wreck the World Championship and was resolved only when Korchnoi and Ribli agreed to replay the semi-finals to choose a World Championship challenger in London.

Korchnoi showed very restrained behaviour in the match last December against Soviet prodigy Gary Kasparov, which he lost. In the past, Soviet officials had accused him of provocation.

The Soviet move on the boycott appears to end a major source of friction and embarrassment in the chess world, experts said.

Independent tournaments form a mainstay of chess competition but the only one in which Korchnoi has met Soviet players since 1976 was at Lone Pine in the United States, when he arrived unexpectedly, too late for Soviet withdrawal.

The Hoogovens tournament will last two weeks. Korchnoi's first game this afternoon was against Dutchman Geri Ligterink.

## Cram receives physiotherapy

MELBOURNE (R) — Steve Cram, Britain's world, European and Commonwealth 1,500 metres champion, was due to begin physiotherapy on his injured left knee here Friday.

Cram arrived from London on Thursday for six-weeks of racing and training in New Zealand and Australia saying he could not even walk without suffering pain from the tendonitis in his knee.

## McEnroe, Wilander advance to Masters semi-finals

NEW YORK (R) — John McEnroe smashed his racket to bits in a gesture of self-reproach Thursday night on his way to a 6-4, 6-2 victory over Johan Kriek in the Volvo Grand Prix Masters tennis tournament.

McEnroe's triumph, before a crowd of 15,638 at Madison Square Garden, earned him a berth in Saturday's semi-finals against top-seeded Mats Wilander of Sweden.

The 19-year-old Wilander, who beat McEnroe all three times they met last year, advanced Thursday afternoon when he eliminated Jose Higuera of Spain, 7-6, 6-2.

In the concluding quarter-final matches, fourth seed Jimmy Connors faces Tomas Smid of Czechoslovakia and second seed Ivan Lendl, who is seeking his third straight Masters title, plays Andres Gomez of Ecuador. Gomez upset Lendl in Chicago last Saturday.

McEnroe destroyed his racket after making an unforced error in the final game of the first set. The outburst drew a warning from umpire Charles Beck and evoked a chorus of boos from the crowd.

Tournament referee Ken Farrar, who is a Grand Prix supervisor, later announced that McEnroe had been fined \$500 for "racket abuse."

After driving a backhand wide to trail 15-30 in the 10th game, which he ultimately won, McEnroe smashed his midsize graphite racket on the synthetic carpet. The top part of the racket was catapulted against a green curtain beyond the baseline, narrowly missing a lineswoman who shielded her face with her hands. The grip remained in McEnroe's left hand.

McEnroe later apologised for

the incident. "I apologise and I hope everyone realises it was totally accidental," he told a post-match press conference. "I've banged my racket on the court hundreds of times, but that's only the second time it's broken like that. The first time was during a match against Connors."

McEnroe has not done well in the Masters since beating Arthur Ashe in the final in 1979 for his first major tournament title. And he was relatively unimpressive in beating Kriek for the 10th time in 12 meetings.

Though he finished 1983 as the top-ranked player, barely edging out Lendl, McEnroe did not have an outstanding year. He won four tournaments, but only one after capturing his second Wimbledon title. And this week he slipped to second in the Association of Tennis Professionals (ATP) rankings, behind Lendl.

The New Yorker, who has an 11-8 career record in the Masters, again criticised the policy of holding the tournament at the beginning of the new year.

"I think it should be held in mid-December and not in January," he said. "I have a hard time getting my mind on it because of the Christmas holidays and the (professional) football playoffs."

Though McEnroe already has been voted Player of the Year by the ATP membership, the outcome of the Masters is expected to decide who is named number one by an International Tennis Federation (ITF) panel next week. McEnroe has objected to including the Masters in such a selection, contending, as do some other high-ranked players, that only events held in the previous year should be relevant to picking the top player.

## Navratilova wins again

OAKLAND, California (R) — Top-seeded Martina Navratilova stretched her unbeaten record to 52 matches with a comfortable 6-1, 6-3 win over fellow-American Pam Casale in a \$150,000 women's tennis tournament here Thursday night.

Eight-seeded Hana Mandlikova of Czechoslovakia recorded her seventh successive win, as she beat another American, Bonnie Gadusek 6-1, 6-7, 6-2 in their second round clash.

Czechoslovak-born Nav-

ratilova, beaten just once last year, had little trouble sweeping aside 20-year-old Casale. It was Navratilova's first tournament since November.

Chris Evert-Lloyd, who went 56 matches without defeat in 1974, currently holds the record for the longest unbeaten run.

Earlier on Thursday, second-seeded American Andrea Jaeger beat her compatriot Kathy Rinaldi 6-2, 6-3 while fifth-seeded Bettina Bunge of West Germany beat Lisa Bonder of the U.S. 6-2, 7-6.

## Derwall names squad for European Championships training

BONN (R) — West German trainer Jupp Derwall Friday named five young uncapped fullbacks in a squad of 28 players for a week's training in Bulgaria next month in preparation for June's European Soccer Championships in France.

The new fullbacks are Manfred Bockenfeld, 23, Andreas Brehme, 23, Guenther Schaefer, 21, Ralf Falkenmayer, 20, and Michael Frontzeck, 19.

West Germany, the defending European Champions, have been heavily criticised by press and public for recent lacklustre performances with experienced full-

backs Wolfgang Dremmler and Hans-Peter Briegel coming under particularly strong fire.

The squad is: Goalkeepers — Dieter Burdenski, Harald Schumacher.

Defenders — Klaus Augenthaler, Manfred Bockenfeld, Hans-Peter Briegel, Andreas Brehme, Hans-Gunter Bruns, Wolfgang Dremmler, Ralf Falkenmayer, Bernd Forster, Karlheinz Forster, Michael Frontzeck, Matthias Herget, Dittmar Jakobs, Guenther Schaefer, Uli Stielike, Gerd Strack.

## Holmes to defend IBF title

LOS ANGELES (R) — Larry Holmes has signed a contract to defend his new International Boxing Federation (IBF) heavyweight title against former World Boxing Association (WBA) champion John Tate, one of the promoters announced Friday.

The Dallas-based television network JPD Sports, co-promoter, with Murad Muhammad, said the fight would be held in late March or early April at a site to be determined. Details of the purse also have to be worked out.

Holmes, 34, resigned his World Boxing Council (WBC) title in a surprise move last month after knocking out Marvin Frazier in the first round of a non-title bout in

November. Tate, 27, who has a 30-2 record, won the WBA title when he scored a 15-round decision over Gerrie Coetzee of South Africa in October 1979. He lost the title in his first defence when he was knocked out by Mike Weaver in March 1980.

Holmes, unbeaten in 45 professional fights — 32 within the distance — relinquished the WBC title last month because of a dispute over the purse he was to have received for a mandatory title defence against top-ranked American Greg Page.

It will be his first defence of the IBF title.

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## World incomes rise by 65%, ILO says

GENEVA (R) — The world witnessed a record 65 per cent rise in average per capita income in the 20 years from 1960 to 1980, the International Labour Office (ILO) said Friday.

In 1980, countries with a per capita income of \$260 recorded only a 1.2 per cent increase.

In the industrialised countries of the West it was 3.6 per cent.

A similar lag by the poorest nations in the past 20 years meant the industrialised countries prospered at a faster than average rate, the ILO said in a report on labour conditions published Friday.

Rarely, if ever, did any country in history achieve such a growth over such a period as that which has been achieved during these 20 years by the whole world, the report said.

Though the 1960s and 1970s were a period of unprecedented growth, some countries lagged far behind and 11 of them, mostly in Africa, registered a decline in per capita income.

The biggest drop was shown by Angola, which registered a fall in per capita income averaging 2.3 per cent per year for the 20 decades.

About 100 countries registered a growth in average per capita earnings during the period, but wage gaps also widened in many cases.

Disparities in income were relatively low in European countries and among developing countries they were highest in Latin America.

They were lowest in Asia and the Pacific region.

In most of the developed countries, the ILO said, real wages continued to rise until a few years ago, but in the developing nations not only had there been large differences from country to country but also real wages had frequently fallen, sometimes substantially.

## L. American debtors prepare common approach on debt

QUITO (R) — Latin American debtor nations are preparing to issue a key document mapping out a common position on debt payments, after 5 heads of government Thursday denounced the current terms as too onerous.

The presidents of Colombia, Ecuador, Costa Rica and the Dominican Republic and Jamaica's prime minister, attending a 24-nation Latin American economic conference here, demanded in separate speeches that Western banks ease lending terms to the region, whose total foreign debt is put at \$310 billion.

6 foreign ministers are also attending the conference, which has heard varied suggestions on how to ease the burden.

Brazilian Foreign Minister Rodrigo Sarney Guereiro suggested that Latin America press for a reduction in the interest rate margins charged by Western creditors on loans, while Dominican President Jorge Blanco said each country's debt service payments should be determined by how much it exported.

Cuban Vice-President Carlos Rafael Rodriguez took the hardest line, saying Latin America would have to go beyond appeals to the industrial West and fight for "indispensable concessions" in view of what he said was the inability of several insolvent nations to pay their debts.

He suggested that Latin America forge links with the socialist bloc, perhaps by increasing trade with the Soviet Union, to pressure the West to grant softer terms.

Despite the conference's strident rhetoric, it was unclear how specific its final document would be in demanding changes in creditor policies to help Latin America.

Conference sources told Reuters that Brazil and Mexico, which

owe over half the region's foreign debt, had successfully watered down the draft document so that it would not demand deferment of principal payments until 1988, as originally suggested by Ecuador.

There was a wide consensus in the conference to ask the West to take budgetary steps to curb international interest rates, which would immediately save Latin America billions of dollars.

Nearly all nations also wanted lower tariff barriers to allow greater markets for Latin American goods.

Meanwhile, the president of the United Nations General Assembly Thursday warned Latin America that the weight its \$310 billion debt could plunge the region into a paralysing depression.

Panamanian Mr. Jorge Illueca said that the "intolerable" loan conditions of foreign private creditors could backfire by forcing austerity policies that could starve and debilitate the people on whose labour the debt repayments depend.

Mr. Illueca called for the creation of a Latin American monetary fund to issue hard currencies to cash-starved countries in the region, which delegates said was apparently aimed at reducing the influence of the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

President Belisario Betancur of Colombia urged Latin America to create a new currency for regional trade, which delegates said would free more dollars for debt repayment instead of using the U.S. currency for financing imports within the continent.

Mr. Betancur and Mr. Jorge Blanco also pressed rich nations to create an energy bank to finance energy projects which analysts

## Lagos favours grouping of African oil states

LAGOS (R) — Nigeria's new military government supports the idea of an informal association of African oil producers, the News Agency of Nigeria said Thursday.

It quoted chief of staff Brigadier Tunde Idiagbon as saying the government would welcome such a grouping providing it did not work against the interests of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), of which Nigeria is a member.

Brig. Idiagbon was speaking at a meeting with the Algerian Energy Minister Belkacem Nabi in Lagos Wednesday, the agency said.

Other main oil producers in Africa include Algeria, Angola, Libya, Cameroon, Congo, Gabon, Ivory Coast and Zaïre.

FORECAST FOR SATURDAY, JANUARY 14, 1984

## YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: One of those days which you can wisely spend on all of the tasks, errands and shopping to be done and to use your best mental qualities to find ways to have more success in the future.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) A good day to look into accounts and study bookkeeping and legal documents to see that all is in order. Become more efficient.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Study your financial structure and know what progress you have made and how to gain your goals in the future. Show your ingenuity.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Study your image in the mirror and think about what can be done to improve yourself. Concentrate on health first. Get together with friends.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) Get into the privacy of your home and handle some personal matters. Keep that appointment with the one you love tonight.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Analyze your "nest personal ambitions, and discover how to gain them. Don't beat around the bush; state your aims.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) You have many errands to do so get busy early. Allow yourself ample time to get things done properly. Go out on the town at night.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Concentrate on how to expand in various spheres of your endeavor. Get out and make new friends of different background to your own.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Plan how to take care of your accounts better in the future. Please your mate by going along with his or her ideas. Be happy together.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Situations arise that you had not counted on, but handle them well. Be cooperative with a partner who wants more of your time.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Look about for better methods to handle your regular job and this will be a productive day. Family fun this evening.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) A good day for handling all those small tasks about the house which make it more attractive. Entertain guests in the evening.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) A fine day for improving conditions at your home so that there is more harmony in the future. Understand the needs of family.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he or she will be someone who can be counted on in case any emergencies arise; should have as fine an education at modern schools as possible since this is a fast-thinking individual here. Teach to finish projects.

"The Stars impel; they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you!  
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## LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — The market closed firm, extending Thursday's late rally which followed the recent bout of profit-taking. Dealers noted fresh institutional demand and sentiment helped by the overnight gain on Wall Street and at 1500 the F.T. index was up 7.7 at 803.7, having touched a record 804.2.

ICI at 650 and Glaxo at 807 were 12p apiece higher, but Thorn EMI was 20p off at 654 on profit-taking after interim results in line with market expectations.

Government bonds firmed up to ½ point in line with the higher opening trend in U.S. credit markets. Gold shares were firmer on balance and North American stocks held steady.

RTZ rose 23p to 657 in response to a rise in the zinc price. Dealers said, Banks saw gains stretching to 23p as in Barclays at 523. Phoenix Assurance closed a net 9p higher at 450 on renewed bid speculation and other insurances were generally firmer with Guardian Royal 12p higher at 530.

Bowater fell 5p at 256 and Rascal was 6p off at 207 ahead of results next week but Beecham added 12p to 325 and Fisons 10p to 742. Oils were narrowly mixed. The listing of Bellair Cosmetics was suspended temporarily at 13½ up from 13¼ Thursday and compares with a price of 730p on Dec. 23 last year.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### USSR attains record meat production

MOSCOW (R) — The Soviet Union produced a record 17.5 million tonnes of meat last year which a senior government official said was proof that new organisational measures were working. The official TASS news agency said the meat production figure was 9 per cent up on 1982, a significant increase after years of negligible change. TASS said state purchases of milk also rose 9 per cent to 63.4 million tonnes. Purchases of eggs rose 4 per cent over 1982 to reach 48.2 billion and wool purchases rose by the same amount to 238,000 tonnes.

### U.S. businesses plan to spend more

WASHINGTON (R) — U.S. businesses plan to increase spending on expansion and modernisation by 9.4 per cent in 1984, the biggest rise since 1977, the Commerce Department said Thursday. This follows 3 years of decline and Economists said the spending projections show that businessmen are optimistic about the U.S. recovery. The Commerce Department figures were based on a survey of a broad cross-section of U.S. industry.

### New Polish unions reject price proposals

WARSAW (R) — Poland's new trade unions, which replaced the banned Solidarity movement, have rejected fresh proposals on food price rises presented to the government by 2 ministers. Official newspapers reported Thursday. The proposals, which would introduce a smaller overall increase in food prices than the government first suggested in November, were drawn up after widespread public opposition led the communist authorities to modify their original plans.

### French co. wins big Egyptian contract

PARIS (R) — Stein-Industrie, a French engineering company, has won a major contract to supply a steam generating boiler for the Egyptian electricity authority. Stein's parent company Alstom-Atlantique said Wednesday. The contract is worth 250 million francs (\$29 million) to the company, which plans to complete the project by the first half of 1987. Stein is part of an international group of companies, led by the West German firm Kraftwerk Union, which will build the power station.

## Singapore Airlines may join IATA

SINGAPORE (R) — Singapore Airlines is considering whether to join IATA, a move which travel sources said Thursday would mean an end to many of the free inflight services and special fares that has made it one of the world's most successful and profitable carriers.

SIA Chairman Joseph Piliay said the state-owned carrier was facing both internal cost pressures and what he called external threats.

"These days the threat of protectionism is ever present from airlines and countries of the old world which are plain tired... under those circumstances the company is seriously contemplating the issue of entry into the International Air Transport Association."

Mr. Piliay did not elaborate, or say when SIA might join IATA. The industry body regulates everything from fares to the number of cabin staff.

The 12-year-old SIA, which is ranked by the travel trade as one of the world's top carriers, attributes its success to efficient management and aggressive marketing.

It has 28 planes, including 18 Boeing 747 Jumbos.

SIA sources said Thursday the airline also was planning to move its Asian headquarters — which handles sales and administration for the region — to Hong Kong, probably by April.

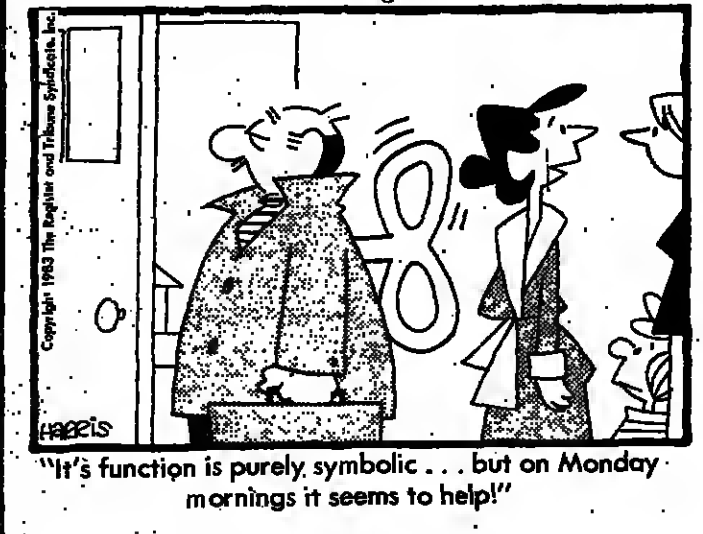
The sources said most major international airlines have their regional office in the British colony in order to better serve the major markets like Japan, South Korea and Taiwan.

## LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Friday.

One sterling	1.0000/10.00	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.2497/25.61	Canadian dollars
One Canadian dollar	2.8327/37	West German marks
One West German mark	3.1825/35	Dutch guilders
One Dutch guilder	2.2442/57	Swiss francs
One Swiss franc	57.76/80	Belgian francs
One Belgian franc	8.6640/90	French francs
One French franc	171.00/171.00	Italian lire
One Italian lire	234.50/60	Japanese yen
One Japanese yen	8.2310/40	Swedish crowns
One Swedish crown	7.9350/80	Norwegian crowns
One Norwegian crown	10.2450/80	Danish crowns
One Danish crown	370.30/370.80	U.S. dollars

## THE BETTER HALF. By Harris



## Peanuts



## Mutt 'n' Jeff

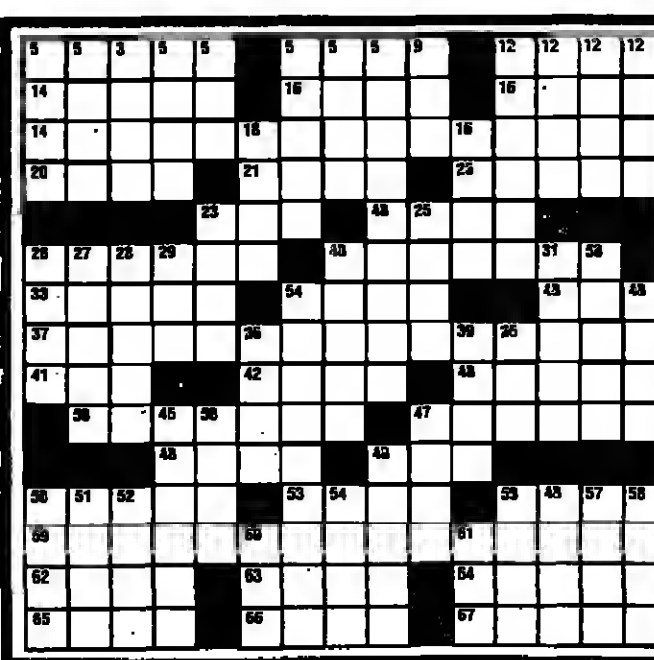


## Andy Capp



## THE Daily Crossword by June J. Boril

ACROSS	34 Defeat	63 Unadulterated	28 Bombay's
1 Disdain	35 pro noble	64 Fight silt	29 Free
6 Covenant	37 Moderate	65 Sale phase	30 Loom yarns
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20 Reason d'	48 Encircled	2 Brusqua	39 Pa. port
21 Glance	49 Mineral	3 Smell	40 Narrow inlet
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23 Needlefish	53 Greek letter	5 Negative	46 Journal
24 Verve	55 Tater	7 Der (Adenauer)	46 Ninny
26 Coll	59 Elated	8 Work together in harmony	47 Scottish hillside
30 Quarrel	62 One-man performance	9 Place for a bath	48 Different
33 Palmer of golf		10 Dining	50 Pansetta or
		11 boy!	51 Slaughter of baseball
		12 Chmney dirt	52 Hun king
		13 Austen work	54 Other: Sp.
		16 Gem	55 Tender to the touch
		19 Algarian port	56 Type of school
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# Kissinger's C. American plan faces tough fight in Congress

WASHINGTON (R) — The Kissinger commission's plan to funnel more than \$8 billion in economic and military aid to Central America over the next five years faces a difficult future in Congress, critics and supporters agree.

Republicans and Democrats have been at odds for three years over President Reagan's policies in the region and the commission report, released on Wednesday, was widely viewed as not substantially advancing a political compromise.

Key factors in the outcome of the debate include the degree to which Mr. Reagan chooses to lobby on behalf of the commission's recommendations and the result of national elections in El Salvador, now scheduled for March.

In addition, many in Congress, including members of Mr. Reagan's own Republican Party, believe a major increase in aid to

Central America is doomed if the White House continues to oppose tying military assistance to human rights progress.

The 12-member bipartisan commission, chaired by former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, proposed that military aid to El Salvador be contingent on human rights improvements despite Mr. Reagan's veto last month of a law that did just that.

So far, Mr. Reagan has expressed general satisfaction with the report but has not committed himself to specifics.

His response on specific items is expected to come when he submits his budget about Feb. 1.

Congressman Dante Fascell, a

key Democratic leader on foreign policy, announced the House of Representatives Foreign Affairs Committee would give "prompt and serious attention to whatever request" Mr. Reagan makes based on the commission's report.

But, he added, "It must be stressed that Congress will act on the administration's requests only if the president puts the full weight of his office behind them and works vigorously for their passage."

Echoing others, Mr. Fascell predicted Congress probably would not approve a five-year aid package, as the commission recommended, nor agree to funnel economic assistance through a regional organization because of Congress' reluctance to relinquish control.

The upcoming elections in El Salvador, coupled with increasing tensions between the United States and Nicaragua, could dramatically shape congressional action.

## U.S. pilot killed

TEGUCIGALPA (R) — A U.S. helicopter pilot was killed in southern Honduras Thursday when his craft made a forced landing and was then fired on from nearby Nicaragua, the U.S. embassy said here.

The incident occurred along the tense Central American border between leftist Nicaragua and Honduras, where U.S. troops have been conducting military manoeuvres with Honduran forces.

According to the embassy, the pilot died outside his OH-58 observation helicopter in "hostile fire from Nicaragua" after the craft made a forced landing inside Honduran territory. The statement did not say why the craft was forced to land.

Two U.S. army engineers aboard the helicopter escaped unhurt, the embassy said.

## Reagan supports 4-party talks on Korea

WASHINGTON — President Reagan, at the state dinner Jan. 10 for Chinese Premier Zhao Ziyang, told a pool of reporters he would like to see a four-party conference on the Korean problem, including North and South Korea, China and the United States. He said he had discussed the matter with Mr. Zhao, but had not gone into detail.

Deputy Press Secretary Larry Speakes told reporters that United States has "over the years, discussed problems on Korea with a number of parties." He confirmed the point that Korean matters, including the bomb explosion in Rangoon.

Mr. Speakes said Washington has also discussed the Korean problem with Japan. He would not go beyond Mr. Reagan's remarks at the state dinner. Asked why Mr. Reagan would include China in the conference, Mr. Speakes noted Peking's influence in the region and the world and said Chinese influence would be "helpful" in this case.

## Chinese premier warns of war danger in Pacific

SAN FRANCISCO (R) — Chinese Premier Zhao Ziyang, saying the danger of war still hangs over the Pacific region, Friday night urged that foreign bases in the area be dismantled and foreign forces withdrawn.

"The Pacific Ocean is by no means Pacific. Superpower rivalry in this region is still intensifying," Mr. Zhao said in remarks prepared for a dinner audience following his arrival in San Francisco after talks in Washington with President Reagan.

He said the Pacific region had been a war zone in the past and commented: "Even today, clouds of war are hanging over our heads."

Mr. Zhao said China and the United States, being big powers on opposite sides of the ocean, had heavy responsibilities to bear in this regard.

"No country should seek hegemony in this region," he said. The arms race, the nuclear arms race in particular, must be halted. "Foreign military bases must be dismantled and foreign military forces withdrawn."

Mr. Zhao did not point an accusing finger directly at any country, although his comments were partly aimed at the United States, which has both bases and troops on the Western side of the Pacific.

He said a growing number of warships were in the Pacific and more missiles had been deployed on its periphery — an apparent reference to the Soviet military buildup.

Mr. Zhao concluded that, however difficult the future might appear, he was confident peace would eventually replace confrontation and hostility in the world.

## Major opposition parties launch attack on Gandhi

CALCUTTA (R) — India's major opposition parties Friday accused Prime Minister Indira Gandhi of trying to topple opposition-ruled state governments as they began a conference to discuss various political and economic issues.

Analysts say the conference will prove how far the fragmented opposition parties can effectively challenge Gandhi's Congress (I) Party in national elections in the world's largest democracy within the next 12 months.

Opening the three-day meeting, Marxist chief minister of the eastern state of West Bengal Jyoti Basu said: "Gandhi's Congress (I) Party and government are trying to unsettle and destabilise democratically elected governments in the opposition-ruled states."

Six of India's 22 states are ruled by national opposition and regional parties who say Mrs. Gandhi is looking for opportunities to put her own party in power in these states.

Gandhi's Party has accused the opposition government of Jammu

and Kashmir state bordering Pakistan of being anti-national and of harbouring separatist elements. It said the Marxist government in West Bengal is trying to introduce party ideology in school textbooks.

Mrs. Gandhi told a national integration meeting Thursday in New Delhi several forces were at work at home and abroad to destabilise India.

The opposition conference is being held a few weeks after Mrs. Gandhi's party held a meeting of 10,000 party workers in Calcutta last month to set the seal on the main themes for its election campaign.

Chief ministers from opposition-ruled states and leaders of about 19 opposition parties were invited to the Calcutta meeting that is likely to seek a greater share of tax revenues and financial powers from Mrs. Gandhi's government in New Delhi.

Mr. Basu said: "A strong India can only be built by legitimate sharing of powers between the centre and states."

## Ustinov to visit India

NEW DELHI (R) — Soviet Defence Minister Marshal Dmitri Ustinov will visit India soon as part of a series of high-level exchanges between the two countries, an Indian external affairs spokesman said Thursday.

Western diplomats said the visit was not unexpected because Moscow tried to reach visits by senior Western leaders to Third World countries. British Prime Minister Thatcher, French Agriculture Minister Michel Rocard and West German Economics Minister Otto Lambardorf have recently visited India.

The Soviet Union, which traditionally enjoys close ties with India, has in the past two years fallen behind the United States in trade with New Delhi. But it remains India's largest single arms supplier.

The Indian spokesman said dates for the visit had yet to be finalised. He said Marshal Ustinov had been invited by Indian Defence Minister Ramaswami Venkataraman during his trip to Moscow last year.

Marshal Ustinov, whose delegation is likely to include Soviet Deputy Prime Minister Viktor Dymshits, last visited New Delhi

in 1982. Soviet Deputy Defence Minister and Air Force Chief Pavel Kutakhov toured Indian defence installations last month.

Indian newspapers said Marshal Ustinov would hold talks with Prime Minister Indira Gandhi.

Prominent Indian journalist G.K. Reddy, writing in the Madras newspaper, the Hindu said Marshal Ustinov's visit was a substitute for one planned by Soviet leader Yuri Andropov. Mr. Andropov has not been seen in public for several months, leading to speculation that he is seriously ill.

The Indian spokesman declined to comment on Mr. Reddy's article.

India's air force is mainly equipped with Soviet aircraft and New Delhi is said to be considering the purchase of Ilyushin-76 transport aircraft.

India is to assemble a new Soviet fighter, the MiG-27, while the navy last year took delivery of the first of three Kashin-class missile destroyers. The army has 1,000 Soviet-built tanks, according to Western estimates.

But India has also turned to the West for arms, buying Sea Harrier jump-jets from Britain and the French Mirage 2000.

## More witnesses found who say Galman not Aquino killer

MANILA (R) — A commission probing the killing of Philippines opposition leader Benigno Aquino has found more witnesses who say the man named as the assassin did not kill the former senator, a commission member said Friday.

Ernesto Herrera, one of five members of the panel, said he had talked to about 15 employees of Philippine Air Lines (PAL), some of whom corroborated the testimony of a PAL engineer that the man named as the killer could not have shot Mr. Aquino.

Mr. Herrera said the 15, all

PAL ground crew, would testify before the commission but he did not say when.

Mr. Aquino was shot in the back of the head moments after he arrived at Manila Airport in August to unite opposition to President Ferdinand Marcos. He had been in voluntary exile in the United States for three years.

The armed forces said the killer was Rolando Galman, whom they described as a hired gunman and Communist guerrilla. He was gunned down by security guards after Mr. Aquino was shot.

## Benazir denies secret deal with government

KARACHI (R) — The daughter of executed Pakistani Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto has denied making any secret deal with the military government before being released on Tuesday from 34 months of detention.

Benazir Bhutto, 31, who left the same day for medical treatment in Europe, told Reuters by telephone from Paris that military authorities simply brought her a passport and airplane ticket and gave her one hour to pack before her flight left.

Miss Benazir, who had been detained since March 1981, said she accepted the passport and ticket so her deteriorating ear ailment could be properly treated.

"There was no secret deal for my release," she said. She has been acting leader of her father's Pakistan People's Party (PPP) since her mother Nusrat left for medical treatment in France in Nov. 1982.

President Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq overthrew Prime Minister Bhutto in a 1977 coup. The PPP has since been the strongest of the

opposition parties, all of which are banned.

Pakistani newspapers have suggested the PPP might have struck a deal with the government which led to Miss Benazir's release. They also suggested a statement issued by Miss Benazir on her departure was faked.

She said these suggestions were incorrect.

"Our cause is noble, our struggle pristine," the statement said. "The struggle for constitutional rule, provincial autonomy, democracy and economic equality continues."

She also denied speculation her departure would cause a split between moderate elements in the PPP and the more radical wing which has always supported her. "The party is intact and its workers and leaders are united," she said.

The PPP, which has been connected with the Bhutto family since the former prime minister founded it in 1967, is the largest of the nine parties in the opposition Movement for the Restoration of Democracy (MRD).

## S. Korean dissident's return sought by rival

SEOUL (R) — Former opposition leader Kim Young-Sam Friday called on the South Korean government to allow dissident leader Kim Dae-Jung, who is in exile in the United States, to return home freely.

Mr. Kim Young-Sam, former head of the outlawed New Democratic Party (NDP), told a press conference he wanted to work together with the dissident leader in their struggle for the return of full democracy in South Korea.

"I strongly urge the government to guarantee free entry to South Korea and political freedom for Mr. Kim Dae-Jung who was banished to the United States," he said.

Mr. Kim Dae-Jung hand in hand with me would lead to the shortest way to democracy," he added.

Mr. Kim Dae-Jung 58, who once vied for the presidency with Mr. Kim Young-Sam, was allowed to go to the United States in December 1982 after being released from a 20-year jail term for sedition.

The two Kims are among 303 politicians barred from political activity for eight years until President Chun Hwan's term expires in 1988.

Mr. Kim Young-Sam, 56, who staged a 23-day hunger strike for democracy last year declared that the new year should be "the year of triumph of democracy" and called for a unified campaign.

## U.S. does not expect arms talks breakthrough

WASHINGTON (R) — American officials said that public statements from Moscow virtually rule out a breakthrough by Secretary of State George Shultz and Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko on resuming declassified nuclear arms talks between the two superpowers.

Mr. Shultz and Mr. Gromyko will meet in Stockholm next Wednesday and the officials said that if nothing else the discussions would allow the two men to spell out their positions precisely and frankly.

Mr. Shultz said Thursday he hoped the meeting, their first since

a bitter confrontation last September over the Soviet shooting down of a South Korean airliner, would produce renewal of the arms talks and moderate the current freeze in U.S.-Soviet relations.

But he told reporters that he would offer no new U.S. nuclear missile concessions and that progress on arms control depended on Soviet willingness.

Mr. Shultz said President Reagan still wanted a meeting with Soviet President Yuri Andropov, who has not been seen in public for nearly five months, but only if it would produce a significant

U.S.-Soviet agreement.

U.S. officials hope prospects for the Shultz-Gromyko meeting will be improved by Mr. Reagan's speech next Monday on U.S.-Soviet relations, when he is expected to strike a more conciliatory note than previously.

The meeting will take place during the 35-country Conference on Disarmament in Europe (CDE).

At the September meeting of the U.S. and Soviet ministers in Madrid, Mr. Gromyko wanted to discuss arms control but Mr. Shultz refused to discuss anything except the Sept. 1 attack on the South Korean plane.

## U.S. violating embargo on S. Africa

WASHINGTON (R) — The United States has allowed the commercial export of more than \$28 million worth of military technology to South Africa since 1981, violating a United Nations arms embargo, according to a new study.

It said British, West German, French, Italian and Swiss arms technology had also been reaching South Africa illegally.

The study by the American Friends Service Committee and the Washington Office on Africa, two private groups highly critical of South Africa's policy of apartheid, was released Friday.

"The (U.S.) State Department has authorised commercial sales of more than \$28.3 million worth of military equipment during 1981-1983," it said.

Based partly on data released under the U.S. Freedom of In-

formation Act, the report acknowledged that outright sales of arms by Washington to Pretoria had apparently stopped.

"Rather than outright sales of large weapons systems, exports by U.S. corporations consist to a great extent of the building blocks of modern weaponry — components, unfinished sub-assemblies and other technology," it said.

Thomas Conrad, who headed the study research team, told reporters: "The volume of this trade is much greater than has ever been reported."

"The U.S. government claims that these exports are for civilian use, but this equipment has military applications and the State Department has acknowledged that the products are on the munitions list (of restricted exports)," Mr. Conrad said.

According to the report, the technology exports include sophisticated computers, navigation gear, and encoding devices.

It also cited the export to two South African black homelands — Ciskei and Bophuthatswana — of U.S.-made counter-insurgency planes and engines.

It said West German technology had been used in South African missile, and communications systems, and several South African military patents had been awarded to British, French, Italian and Swiss firms.

Military exports to Pretoria were "a grave violation of the (mandatory) U.N. arms embargo," a summary of the report said.

The U.S. State Department had denied that Washington was violating the arms embargo, the study noted.

## Iran deporting Afghan refugees to Pakistan

QUETTA, Pakistan (R) — Iran has deported up to 3,000 Afghan refugees from its eastern border areas to neighbouring Pakistan in a sharp break with its earlier, more liberal treatment of the exiles, according to Pakistani officials and international aid workers here.

The sudden and unexplained deportations, which began last month, amount to the most puzzling influx of refugees seen in Pakistan's western province of Baluchistan since fighting began between Afghan guerrillas and the Soviet-backed Kabul government five years ago, they told Reuters in interviews here.

The worry among refugee officials now, they added, was that the flow might continue, straining Baluchistan's already scarce resources and possibly upsetting the shaky balance between the backward province's various tribes and ethnic groups.

"We have registered about 2,000 in camps so far," Khadim Hussain, provincial commissioner for refugees, told Reuters. His office had geared up for a wave of 15,000 but that now appeared unlikely, he added.

Up to 1,000 more are living in several areas across the barren province, some without even basic food rations, relief workers said. Baluchistan already has over

600,000 registered refugees. "Even 2,000 is enormous for Baluchistan," commented one aid worker who asked not to be named.

"This is the tip of an iceberg. We don't really know why they are coming or what will happen," he added.

The fighting in Afghanistan, which began with the 1978 coup and escalated sharply after Soviet troops arrived the following year, has driven almost three million refugees east and south into Pakistan and another 1.5 million west into Iran, according to official figures.

While Pakistan accepted massive international aid and set up about 380 refugee camps, revolutionary Iran refused all outside help and let the Afghans live and work as they pleased. Many refugees even left Pakistani camps for better-paying jobs in Iran.

The clearest indication of Iran's tougher stand came in early December when Interior Minister Ali Akbar Nateq-Nuri said Tehran wanted to clear a 30 kilometre strip along its border with Afghanistan and would deport any refugee refusing to register.

Mr. Nateq-Nuri, who also promised to deport Afghan law-breakers, made his comments after two people had been killed in Tehran protests.

Refugees, who are blamed in both Iran and Pakistan for crimes and violence.

The first deportees arrived at Koh-i-Taftan on the Iran-Pakistan border in early December, saying they had been brought at least part of the way there in Iranian army trucks and chartered buses, the relief workers reported.

The refugees said they refused to cooperate with the registration drive because they feared the authorities would send them to what was believed to be a high-security labour camp near Kerman in south-eastern Iran, they said.

Many said they also feared being sent to fight in Iran's war with Iraq and a few claimed they were asked to work in Bandar Abbas, the Iranian port area facing the strategic Strait of Hormuz at the mouth of the Gulf.

The relief workers could not confirm or deny persistent rumours that refugees were being sent to the Iraqi front since Tehran rarely cooperates with international aid agencies and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) has no office there, they said.

Most Afghans in Iran are believed to be Persian-speaking members of the Shia Muslim sect who have been there, but almost all had been

Pashtu-speaking tribal families belonging to the Sunni sect, favoured in Iraq. Some deportees mentioned their religious link with the Iraqis as a reason not to fight them.

Tourists arriving in Quetta from the border told Reuters they saw Iranian officials ordering Afghans off buses there, checking their names off a list and showing them across the border into Pakistan.

Most of the refugees had been living around Zabol, a south-eastern Iranian town close to the Afghan border, and were brought from there to Zahedan 190 kilometres to the south before reaching the frontier.

Several groups said their goods had been confiscated by Iranian border guards, relief workers reported, and — contrary to normal refugee practice — they brought no livestock with them.

Since the deportees came mostly from only one of the three main refugee concentrations in eastern Iran, the relief workers said more might be coming from areas further north around the town of Birjand and the city of Mashhad near Tehran's border with the Soviet Union.

Saleem Abbas Jilani, provincial chief secretary, told Reuters the government did not know why the refugees were coming but feared the added numbers would be a fur-

ther burden to Baluchistan, the poorest and least developed province in Pakistan.

Asked whether Baluchistan had already reached the saturation point with the refugees, Mr. Jilani responded: "We reached that point two years ago. You could say we have gone beyond our saturation point."

A further worry, he and other Quetta officials admitted, was the effect the refugees could have on the shaky balance between ethnic Baluch, who are a minority in their own province, and the Pashtun tribes dominating Quetta and north-eastern Baluchistan.

Frustrated at what they saw as suppression of their rights within the province, well-armed Baluch tribes staged an unsuccessful insurrection against Pakistan in the mid-1970s.

When Pashtun tribesmen began arriving from across the Afghan border following the 1978 coup in Kabul, the Baluch expressed fears that the presence of so many refugees would make them even more of a minority in the province.

Baluch nationalists complained after last September's local council elections here that refugees with illegally obtained Pakistani identity cards cast the decisive votes for successful Pashtun candidates in at least two constituencies.



## 'Dracula' active in Indonesia

JAKARTA (R) — Vampire-like attacks have been reported by 21 young women in Sumatra who said a man had bitten their necks to suck blood, the newspaper Sinar Harapan reported Friday. A local member of parliament told the paper he had not believed the accounts at first but after seeing the victims was convinced a self-styled Dracula was on the loose. The latest victims, two sisters named Dewi Ruspanti and Sri Bahriani, were attacked early this month and were still in hospital with neck wounds in the north Sumatran city of Banda Aceh, the paper added.

## UFO mystifies Soviet scientists

MOSCOW (R) — A mysterious bright object flew at great speed across the Ukraine and southern Russia last month and Soviet scientists are puzzled and divided about what it was. The Moscow newspaper Trud reported, it filed more than 40 people had filed eyewitness reports of the object, a bright sphere followed by seven smaller lights, which crossed the sky on the night of Dec. 2. Most said they saw it changing altitude and direction and some claimed they saw a "construction like a space ship, flying less than a kilometre above the ground", Trud reported.

## Couple sentenced for interracial sex

CAPE TOWN (R) — A coloured (mixed race) man and a white woman were given suspended jail sentences of six months each for having had illegal interracial sex. Sex between races is illegal in South Africa whose laws are based on a system of apartheid and white supremacy. Keith Wentzel, 37, and Wilma Lombard, 20, pleaded guilty to violating the country's "immorality act." In deciding not to send the couple to jail, the judge said he took into account that they had admitted their guilt.

## Laser beams used to cure bedwetting

PEKING (R) — Doctors in Shanghai say they now have a cure for children who wet their beds — laser beams. The Liberation Daily said the Shuguang Hospital can stop 99 per cent of bedwetters with the new treatment, which combines Chinese and Western science. Last month the same hospital said it treated menstrual pain by inserting alcohol-soaked cotton into women's ears. The Shuguang's doctors combat bedwetting by aiming helium and neon laser rays at selected acupuncture points for five minutes a day. They get results after three to four days.

## Hollywood film gangster dies

LOS ANGELES (R) — Hollywood film gangster Jack Larue, who appeared with Mae West in Diamond Lil and in No Orchids for Miss Blandish, has died of a heart attack at the age of 80, a family spokeswoman said. His career spanned 38 years and included 150 films.

## Heavy tread alerts customs officers

KARACHI (R) — Customs officers stopped four men clumping through Karachi Airport in heavy boots, ripped open their footwear and discovered 216 small gold bars, an official spokesman said Friday. The spokesman said the four — all Pakistanis returning home from Dubai — were arrested after the officers found they were trying to smuggle just over 25 kilos of gold worth 4.8 million rupees (\$35,500) between them.

## Storms kill 3 in Scotland

GLASGOW, Scotland (R) — Three people were killed when gale-force winds lashed Scotland. A woman was crushed in an overturned caravan, a motorcyclist died when he crashed into a tree blown across the road and a 10-year-old boy was bit by falling masonry from a chimney. The gales disrupted power supplies and forced ships to take shelter in Scottish ports.

## GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN  
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### ENTRIES OUT OF THIN AIR

Both vulnerable. North deals.

**NORTH**  
♠ 97  
♥ AK543  
♦ A975  
♣ 85

**WEST**  
♠ J64  
♥ Q976  
♦ J3  
♣ KQJ7

**EAST**  
♠ KQ103  
♥ J108  
♦ 82  
♣ 10962

**SOUTH**  
♠ A852  
♥ 2  
♦ KQ1064  
♣ A43

The bidding:  
North East South West  
1 ♠ Pass 2 ♠ Pass  
3 ♠ Pass 4 NT Pass  
5 ♠ Pass 6 ♠ Pass  
Pass Pass

Opening lead: King of ♠.

We are convinced that there is a god that looks after chronic overbidders. Consider this hand from a recent Italian championship.

The kindest thing that can be said about South's bidding is that at no stage did he make an insufficient bid. North, who really did no more than open the bidding, found himself in slam. For-

tunately, South had the technique to make the most out of his chances.

West led the top of his club sequence, and declarer won the ace. His only hope was to

set up hearts for a second discard, and to accomplish that he needed three fast entries to the table. Only two are apparent.

Declarer crossed to the ace of hearts and ruffed a heart in hand with the ten. Then he led a low trump and boldly finessed dummy's nine! Another heart was ruffed and a trump to the ace drew all the outstanding trumps and left declarer in dummy. He discarded two clubs on the king of hearts and dummy's long heart, then cashed the ace of spades and conceded a spade. He was able to ruff two spades on the table to bring in twelve tricks.

Just your normal everyday slam. It needed only a 2-2 trump break, a 4-3 heart division and the jack of trumps in the West hand. By our calculations, the chances are slightly over 10 percent. But in the words of Lew Mathe: "The only good alams are those that make!"